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USSR Report

POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL AFFAIRS

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CONTENTS

INTERNATIONAL

- U.S. Economic, Military, Political Influence in France Deplored
(A. Krivopalov; APN DAILY REVIEW, 31 Aug 83) 1

NATIONAL

- Historical Significance of Last Articles, Letters of Lenin
Assessed
(L. B. Vinogradova, Ye. A. Melik'yan; VOPROSY ISTORII KPSS,
No 7, Jul 83) 5
- Irkutsk 'Educational-Labor' Camp for Juvenile Offenders Detailed
(N. Shirobokov; KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA, various dates) 17
- Illegal Video Film Subculture in USSR Revealed
(S. Borisov, B. Pilipenko; KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA, 24 Aug 83) 36

REGIONAL

- Kirghiz Minister of Culture Criticized for Protecting Wrongdoers
(V. Maricheva; SOVETSKAYA KIRGIZIYA, 31 Jul 83) 41
- Ukraine Communist Party Official Outlines Tasks of New Academic
Year
(Feliks Mikhaylovich Rudich; RADYANS'KA UKRAYINA, 1 Sep 83) 46
- RAPO Brings Improvements to Goriysk Rayon, Chairman Claims
(Valerian Khutsishvili; ZARYA VOSTOKA, 5 Jul 83) 48
- Uzbek CC CP Secretary Khodzhayev on Improving Labor Productivity
(A. A. Khodzhayev; PRAVDA VOSTOKA, 5 Aug 83) 52

Uzbek Buro CC CP Holds Regular Session (PRAVDA VOSTOKA, 28 Jul 83)	57
Georgian APK Council Discusses Improvements in Seed Grain, Hydro Projects (ZARYA VOSTOKA, 29 Jun 83)	59
Azerbaijan Center for Public Opinion, Social Research Analyzes Public Opinion (BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY, 20 Aug 83)	61
'Extremist Views' of 'Illegal' Jehovah's Witnesses Criticized (D. Tabakaru; SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA, 5 Aug 83)	70

INTERNATIONAL

U.S. ECONOMIC, MILITARY, POLITICAL INFLUENCE IN FRANCE DEPLORED

Moscow APN DAILY REVIEW in English 31 Aug 83 pp 1-5

[Article by A. Krivopalov, IZVESTIYA own correspondent in Paris: "The Statue of Liberty in New York and Paris"]

[Text] Near Grenelle Bridge, spanning the Seine in the western part of Paris, there is a monument erected on the Swans Island. It is a copy of the famous Statue of Liberty which the French government presented to the United States to mark the centenary of its independence. The American ideologists later proclaimed that monument a symbol of democracy.

And if the impressive statue in New York Harbour, created by sculptor Frederic Auguste Bartholdi and engineer Gustave Eiffel, now suffers from cracks, the image of "free America" is gone completely and totally. And the French, alas, have more and more often to witness that Washington, which imposes its will rudely on its partners and allies, has a very peculiar view of its "duties" to the country that once made such an impressive gift.

The harsh realities of life now remind the French every day of their financial difficulties caused by US economic dictate. Whereas in January 1983 the dollar cost seven francs, in the middle of August one green-backed dollar bill was worth 8.24 francs.

The ascent of the dollar in the Western monetary markets is explained, as is known, by artificially swollen bank interest rates across the Atlantic.

To bring pressure to bear on West European countries, Washington has many recipes. In the Paris press, for example, one can discover data on how through their subsidiaries the American monopolies control directly no less than 16 per cent of industrial capacities in France. In other words, the key to technical progress in French industry is in another country's pocket.

The overseas banks not only finance operations on the domestic French market, but also grant loans to its government. Among the creditors who not so long ago agreed to give Paris another loan totalling 3.7 billion dollars via the European Economic Community, the main role was played by American Chase Manhattan and Morgan Guarantee. As a matter of fact, France's external indebtedness in 1982 increased by 58 per cent to reach more than 300 billion

francs. Before the end of this year, in the view of many observers, it may grow to 424 billion francs. No wonder then that a zero growth of the national product is expected this year and 200,000 more jobless may be added to the two million unemployed.

The metals industry of France is declining steadily, with thousands of people finding themselves out of work. This is the direct result also of the USA's ultimatum demand addressed to its West European partners: cut down steel output.

Not everyone in the French capital shows complacency and closes his eyes to who benefits from the weakening of their country and uses the economy for imperial aims. In explaining that the inflated bank rates in the USA are designed to cause the ebb of capital from Western Europe across the Atlantic, the French Communist newspaper L'HUMANITE pointed to the striving of the overseas monopolies to bleed France white. The growth of foreign investments across the Atlantic is a process involving also French industrial and financial groups.

Taking advantage of France's economic difficulties, the White House, by various means, is pressing for France's "incorporation" in its own and NATO's strategic plans. The Paris decision to set up a Rapid Action Force resembles a similar corps established by the Pentagon. As is indicated in the press, its mission is to enable French "strike forces" to join more promptly and more efficiently with NATO's forces in the event of serious conflicts, above all in Europe, and also in other regions. By following the American example, Paris have embarked on a "mini-rehearsal" for the use of this new force in Chad, a former French colony.

The same strategic goals are served by the shifting of France's "defence centre" to its eastern borders. France is to take a wider part in NATO's measures and manoeuvres. American nuclear submarines have been allowed to call at ports of France. Planes from US aircraft carriers can now overfly French territory and refuel in its air space. For the first time the military programme law has described the Soviet Union as the sole opponent of France. This has caused some of the commentators to ask: is it accidental that the five-year French military programme, providing for a considerable rise in the French nuclear arsenal, "fits in" with the similar US programmes?

The French administration's backing for what is known as NATO's "two-track decision" on the deployment of the American Pershing and Cruise missiles was accepted with good grace in Washington. Rogers, the supreme commander of that aggressive bloc's forces in Europe, as well as other high-placed US representatives, have more than once stated publicly, often to the apparent embarrassment of Paris, that they are satisfied with both French attention to "defence problems" and the state of military cooperation between the USA and France.

Naturally, the raising of the question to count the nuclear forces of France, the third nuclear power of the world, as French leaders are fond of stressing,

in the overall potential of the Western bloc, is fully justified. France is a member of the Atlantic alliance is committed to all the obligations stemming from that.

Washington is also attempting to establish some political control over France. The intention to get out of US tutelage, demonstrated by France under de Gaulle, caused a kind of "French syndrome" in the US capital. Washington watched with suspicion and irritation all the efforts by Paris to play an independent role on the international scene. The position of its French partner as a great power never suited the despotic, self-styled leader of the Western world. Bringing down France to the level of a second-rate state became a permanent line for the architects of American foreign policy.

In the last few years interference by the White House and its authorised representatives in the internal affairs of France, their attempts to exert pressure on it have acquired a still more open character. This manifested itself in the relations between them, within the NATO framework and on a propaganda plane.

There has been not a single anti-communist, anti-Soviet campaign in France which did not bear the mark "Made in USA". US sources of "inspiration" and financing now show themselves particularly visibly in the French mass media of information. The Paris press has pointed out more than once that American propaganda work is being conducted through many large and small organisations and "bureaus".

Even the bourgeois politicians have begun to worry about the escalation of penetration of information and ideological propaganda from trans-Atlantic centres. LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE recently published an article titled "Reagan's America Is Launching a Crusade for Democracy". The article analyses in detail how American services are operating in the West European countries.

Noting that USIA director Wick asked for 711.4 million dollars for fiscal 1983-1984, compared with the 644 million allocated last year, LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE points to Washington's striving to go on building up the "psychological war" and extending it to the entire world.

From the magazine's account it follows that the universal brainwashing is aimed not only against the USSR, the socialist community, the communist and working-class movement and all antiwar organisations, but also against the US Western partners. "Isn't it a question of trying to prove that the American model is superior to all the other models?" asks LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE.

Each morning the Paris newspaper offices receive USIA news bulletins that set forth not only the main American, but also international news in the required spirit for Washington. Very often this propaganda food gets without the slightest processing or reductions into the information ration of millions of Frenchmen--TV viewers, radio listeners and newspaper readers.

US ideological and political penetration in France, naturally, is in the charge of the US Embassy in Paris, which is headed by Evan Galbraith, a man close to Reagan. He took up this post in the autumn of 1981 after the Socialists won in the presidential and parliamentary elections in France.

Washington's stepped-up onslaught on France, developing in a variety of areas, is a harsh reality. Sentimental episodes from the past do not concern the trans-Atlantic pragmatists, who consider that all Western countries are their debtors in the political, economic, military and even moral sense. The USA appears to have forgotten about its own debts to the Old World. And then the Frenchmen also now quite rarely recall their gift to the USA to mark its centenary.

Paris

(IZVESTIYA, August 26. Abridged.)

CSO: 1812/4

NATIONAL

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF LAST ARTICLES, LETTERS OF LENIN ASSESSED

Moscow VOPROSY ISTORII KPSS in Russian No 7, Jul 83(signed to press 6 Jul 83)
pp 151-157

[Article by L. B. Vinogradova and Ye. A. Melik'yan: "The Leninist Program for Constructing Socialism in the USSR"; passages rendered in all capital letters printed in boldface in source]

[Text] The traditional Leninist readings, which were held in the Marxism-Leninism Institute on 20 April, were devoted to the 60th anniversary of V. I. Lenin's last articles and letters.

Academician A. G. Yegorov, the director of the CPSU Central Committee's Marxism-Leninism Institute, gave the meeting's opening address. He said that the annual Leninist readings have already become a good tradition. They are not only a tribute of respect to Lenin -- a brilliant scholar and revolutionary, the creator and wise leader of our party, the leader of the Soviet people and the international proletariat. The readings are also an expression of the vital need of the CPSU and the Soviet people to investigate in light of Marxism-Leninism the new problems that are being raised by society during its progressive movement and to find the best ways and means for resolving the tasks of today.

The last articles and letters of Vladimir Il'ich will be examined during the present Leninist readings. Sixty years have passed since the time of their creation. The significance of these works is of paramount importance. The ways and prospects for constructing socialism in the USSR and of our movement toward communism and the prospects for the world revolutionary process are outlined in them. Organically linked with each other, they are essentially a single work in which Vladimir Il'ich, in creatively developing Marxism, gave the "overall plan of our work, our policy, our tactics, and our strategy".

Lenin's last articles and letters are the final stage in his development of the plan for constructing socialism on which Vladimir Il'ich tirelessly worked his entire life. The Leninist plan for constructing socialism includes a number of main links which are inwardly connected with each other. They are industrialization, an orderly plan for the socialist transformation of the village and a true cultural revolution. The nationality question, which was

given to us from the past, and correspondingly the close uniting of all the country's nations and nationalities into a single allied state and the accelerated economic, social and cultural development of the outlying national districts stand in a single rank with these tasks.

Even now when this plan has already become a reality in our country, it strikes the imagination -- and not only by the fact that Lenin's last articles and letters, which were the result of his strenuous and intense work, were created during six-seven weeks but also by the fact that the unusual depth and breadth of Vladimir Il'ich's political thinking, his strict realism and revolutionary optimism in understanding and interpreting social phenomena, his amazing ability to find concrete forms for moving forward, and his brilliant ability not only to see the present but also to foresee the real forms for moving into the future relying on actual reality and strict scientific calculations and considering all the circumstances of internal and external life, the trends in the world revolutionary process and the relationship of the class forces in our country and in the world arena, were revealed in the Leninist plan for constructing socialism in the USSR.

By this, A. G. Yegorov emphasized, Lenin enriched the theory of scientific communism, raised the science of constructing socialism and communism to a new higher level, enriched the collective experience of the masses that had been acquired during the first years of Soviet power, and looked far forward.

Of course, the speaker continued, Lenin also wrote about socialism and its principles before the October Revolution, but the specific plan for constructing a new society in our country, which revealed the basic general laws for the construction of socialism, and the world-wide historical significance of the creation of a new socialist society, which is constructed and developed in a planned way and according to the laws of a communist formation, were stated most completely by Lenin in his last letters and articles, which have unusually important significance under modern conditions where the main task of all our party and public organizations is -- as Yu. V. Andropov, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, emphasized-- the improvement and strengthening of mature socialism.

Now, from the height of the 20th century's Eighties when the Soviet Union has achieved mature socialism and it is being successfully constructed in a number of fraternal socialist countries, it is seen quite clearly how true was Lenin's scientific concept which became a reality in the Soviet Union and in the other countries of the world socialist commonwealth.

In our day, it is also especially evident what a very great master of the revolutionary dialectic Lenin was. Having come out against those who thought dogmatically and unimaginatively, he first revealed that the general laws of development always emerge in distinctive forms depending on specific historical and national conditions and that "under the general laws of development throughout world history, separate developmental periods, which embody either distinctive forms or order of this development, are not at all excluded but,

on the contrary, are assumed".² Second, Lenin demonstrated in his last articles and letters quite definitely and with a scientifically sound conviction what an important significance the concrete analysis of a specific situation, which is inherent in Marxism, always has under all circumstances.

Lenin showed that the shift from capitalism to socialism is an historically natural, objective and dialectically complicated process. An objective process and a spontaneous one are not one and the same thing. Although a socialist revolution cannot jump over that level of production forces and standards which the previous epoch has given to the people, it creates objective capabilities, which previously had not existed and could not exist, for their development. In connection with this, Lenin revealed the guiding and directing role of the Communist Party in the building of a new life and pointed out its strength lies in firm and unbreakable bonds with the working people which it leads, faithful to the principles of scientific communism and monitoring the results achieved.

Lenin's last articles and letters are filled with a deep concern for insuring the party's leading role in the building of a socialist society, for strengthening the solidarity of its ranks, for consistently following the principles of democratic centralism and collectivity in leadership, and for the unity of word and deed. They are filled with a belief in the party's collective intelligence. All of this maintains its vital force even now when the role of the CPSU is growing even more during the stage of mature socialism. Faithful to Lenin's precepts, our party is consistently and steadfastly implementing Leninist methods for the party's leadership of society and is organizing the broad working masses to carry out the plans for the construction of communism.

Our party is now devoting maximum attention to economic matters following Lenin's directions that "we value communism only when it is well-grounded economically".³ As Yu. V. Andropov, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, pointed out in the article "The Teachings of Karl Marx and Several Questions on Socialist Construction in the USSR", in following a policy to increase the effectiveness of public production and to shift the economy to an intensive path of development, we are proceeding "from the laws for developing socialism's economic system"-- laws whose objective nature "requires that any type of attempt to control⁴ the economy by methods, which are foreign to its nature, be gotten rid of".⁴

Actually, under the conditions of socialism, the objective nature of its economic laws and the fact that the conscious execution of the laws enters here into the very mechanism of their operation are revealed since a socialist state -- a state of the workers and for the workers -- emerges as a mighty factor for social progress from the very first days of its existence guided by its socialist tenor.

Under the conditions of mature socialism, A. G. Yegorov continued, the role of a state of the entire people acquires an especially important significance. This defines a very important stage on the path leading, in the final analysis, to the consolidation of a public communist self-government. As Yu. V. Andropov

pointed out in the article "The Teachings of Karl Marx and Several Questions on Socialist Construction in the USSR", this is an "improvement of enormous significance for socialism's political system".⁵ We, of course, must creatively use during the stage of mature socialism the ideas, which Lenin advanced in his last articles and letters when speaking about the state of the dictatorship of the working class as whose continuation and successor our socialist state of all the people emerges since that which relates to the period of the shift from capitalism to socialism and that which has universal significance, be it the economic levers for the development of a socialist society, the socialist state system, socialist democracy, or any other question of social, economic, political, and spiritual development, are contained in Lenin's works.

Thus, when describing a socialist state as a new type of state, Lenin wrote that a socialist state is strong because of the awareness of the masses. It actually achieves their highest goals. This rallies all classes and social groups and all peoples around the tasks of building communism. A socialist state is noted for its thoroughly democratic nature. As was pointed out during the 26th CPSU Congress, it is completely natural, therefore, that our party even today clearly sees the necessity for further developing socialist democracy and is purposefully working to create the appropriate conditions for this -- legal, material and ideological; consistently following a policy to increase the authority and role of the soviets, improve the work and organization of the state apparatus and expand its ties with the masses as Lenin taught. In particular, Vladimir Il'ich, when speaking about the state apparatus, demanded that its work be placed on a solid scientific basis, that scientific leadership be learned and that "it be verified that science does not remain a dead letter or fashionable phrase for us (it must be confessed that this happens to us quite frequently) and that science really enter into the flesh and blood and be transformed into an integral element of life completely and genuinely."⁶

A. G. Yegorov pointed out that he would like attention to be paid to this aspect of the matter. It is from the scientists that the party is expecting scientific recommendations aimed at further improving state leadership and at making the maximum full use of the enormous reserves that are concealed in the democratic mechanism for controlling the country. In a word, the complicated and large-scale tasks, which have been placed before the Soviet people by the 26th CPSU Congress and the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee Plenum, do not simply cause, but urgently dictate the need to develop and adopt substantial measures to raise the level of state legal regulation in our society. For example, many questions in this area arise in connection with the forming of a management mechanism in the agro-industrial complex. The talk during a meeting in the CPSU Central Committee on 19 April of this year concerned this.

Soviet scientists must demonstrate a business-like, concrete and truly creative approach to the solution of all the questions which have been raised by life in its onward march. In this, as in everything else, we must learn from the great Lenin whose works are permeated from beginning to end with a thorough

historical method. Lenin always examined phenomena in their dynamics and in their development which moves from one stage to another higher one.

In conclusion, A. G. Yegorov expressed the hope that the speakers would try during the Leninist readings to examine questions with a consideration for modern-day experience and in a unity of the present and the future, and that the session would be a fruitful form for discussing and solving the most important problems connected with the history of our party, which is completing 80 years this year, and with the theory and practice of scientific communism.

In his report "V. I. Lenin's Last Articles and Letters -- the Leader's Political Last Will and Testament," Doctor of Historical Sciences A. M. Sovokin, the manager of the V. I. Lenin works sector in the CPSU Central Committee's Marxism-Leninism Institute, pointed out that these works are the crown of Vladimir Il'ich's theoretical work and a work which is unified in its plan and execution and in which a thorough analysis of what had been achieved in our country during that stage of development is provided and a practical program for the struggle for socialism is outlined.

From the end of December 1922 to the beginning of March 1923, Lenin dictated "Letter to the Congress" (with the addenda "On Granting Legislative Functions to Gosplan" and "To the Section on Increasing the Number of Central Committee Members"), "To the Question of Nationalities or 'Self-Government'", "Pages From a Diary", "On the Cooperative System", "On Our Revolution (on the Occasion of N. Sukhanov's Notes)", "How We Should Reorganize the Workers' and Peasants' Inspectorate", and "Better Less, But Better". In these works, Vladimir Il'ich thoroughly analyzed the international situation and the condition of the world liberation movement and concluded that since the majority of the people on earth are being pulled into the struggle for their liberation with unusual swiftness, "there cannot be any shadow of doubt as to what the final solution of the world struggle will be. In this sense, the final victory of socialism is completely and absolutely assured".

Lenin did not confine himself to this general thesis. In his last articles and letters, he answered the practical question: What should be done to bring socialism's final victory closer? Vladimir Il'ich thoroughly developed and defended against various types of critics and falsifiers of the Bolsheviks' experience in creating a new society his most important conclusion: "There will be a socialist Russia from the Russia of NEP" which was expressed in his speech to the 20 November 1922 Moscow City Council of Workers' Deputies Plenum.

Having just implemented Marx's precept about combining the proletarian revolution with the "peasants' war" the party of the Bolsheviks was able to overthrow the rule of the landowners and capitalists and start a new socialist type of society -- a society without exploiters and opposed to exploiters. Everything necessary and sufficient for the construction of a socialist society was created in this way.

The main thing in the tactics of the Bolshevik party in creating a new socialist society was, according to Lenin, the "constructing of a state in which the workers would maintain their leadership of the peasants and the trust of the peasants in them and would rid their social attitudes of any traces whatsoever of excess with the greatest economy".⁸

The speaker pointed out that the CPSU, guided by Leninist ideas, is today endeavoring to develop in each Soviet person a high level of awareness and culture, professionalism, and the ability to use the blessings of socialism wisely. The party comes out decisively against any type of parasite who enjoys these blessings at the expense of the honest working masses.

Integral parts of Lenin's plan for the country's economic and social development, A. M. Sovokin continued, were the cooperation of the peasants and the cultural revolution since it was impossible to create a civilized layer of cooperators without carrying out a cultural revolution and the depth and scope of the latter directly depended on involving the majority of the population in the struggle for culture in all areas of public life. In the article "On the Cooperative System", Lenin pointed out that the party and Soviet authorities had to make the population so civilized and cultured that it would understand all the advantages from general participation in cooperation. Vladimir Il'ich indicated that "a complete revolution, a complete period of the cultural development of the entire popular masses", "a complete historical epoch" is "required" for this.

The distinctive feature of this epoch is the fact that it comes after and as a result of the political and social revolution and, when there is a dictatorship of the proletariat, it can occupy a comparatively small period of time historically -- one-two decades.

Lenin placed the task of constructing a state apparatus, which would be completely responsive to the requirements of a socialist society, in the first place. According to Vladimir Il'ich, it was possible to improve and update the apparatus, which had taken shape, only by uniting the progressive workers, who had been involved in the struggle for socialism, with truly enlightened and honest elements who did not fear any difficulties.

Lenin attached special significance to the Workers' and Peasants' Inspectorate as the body which could help the party to create an exemplary state apparatus and to Gosplan as the state scientific institution which represents the sum total of experienced people and scientific and technical experts who possess the most data to correctly judge the economic and social condition of the country.

In the general plan of party and state work that was developed by Lenin, the strengthening of the socialist state and its foundation -- the Union of the Working class and the peasants, the transformation of the country into a highly developed industrial power, and the implementation of cooperation among the peasants and the cultural revolution were regarded as being of paramount importance.

In his last articles and letters, the speaker continued, Vladimir Il'ich developed his teachings on the nationality question and outlined the bases for creating the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics based on the voluntary union of equal Soviet republics. The path to socialist federalism and the strengthening of the USSR, which was proposed by him, was recognized by the party to be the only true one which would insure the legal and actual equality of nations.

Yu. V. Andropov pointed out in his report "60 Years of the USSR" to the joint formal meeting of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet and RSFSR Supreme Soviet on 21 December 1982 that, in carrying out Lenin's precepts and in implementing Lenin's nationality policy principles, "we have created a powerful state -- the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics--whose formation was not only an important step in the development of socialism but also one of the most important turning-points in the course of the world's history".¹⁰

A. M. Sovokin said in conclusion that Lenin's last articles and letters are filled with a very great concern for the party's unity, the all-round strengthening of its ties with the masses, the need for collective leadership, and the authority and role of the Central Committee. The "Letter to the Congress" and the articles "How We Should Reorganize the Workers' and Peasants' Inspectorate" and "Better Less, But Better" are filled with these ideas.

The subject of the report of Doctor of Historical Sciences V. I. Kulikov, a sector manager in the CPSU History Department of the CPSU Central Committee's Marxism-Leninism Institute, was "Lenin's Cooperation Plan and Its Historical Significance". In his article "On the Cooperative System", he said, Lenin revealed very broadly and in extreme detail all the necessary and sufficient conditions for the construction of a socialist society in our country and showed the way to solve this task and the role of a system of civilized cooperators in its implementation.

The article "On the Cooperative System" has become one of the most well known of Lenin's works throughout the world. In our country, it has been published as a separate pamphlet 224 times with a circulation of more than five million copies in 70 languages of the peoples of the USSR. The principles, which have been stated in it, have become one of the main foundations of life in our country and in other socialist countries and have entered the political programs of many parties.

Wherein lies the enormous magnetic force of the ideas that were stated by Lenin in this article? Why has it acquired such large significance?

In developing the ideas of Marx and Engels under the new historical conditions, Vladimir Il'ich for the first time in revolutionary practices stated quite fully and completely the scientific foundation of cooperative construction in the article "On the Cooperative System", formulating three very important propositions extremely clearly. First, he showed that the dictatorship of the proletariat, public ownership of the means of production and the development of new social relationships based on this are fundamentally changing the nature of cooperation. It is being transformed from a collective capitalist institution

into an instrument for building socialism. Second, cooperation can perform its constructive mission in establishing a socialist society only if the leading role of the working class and its vanguard -- the Communist Party-- is insured in the cooperative movement. Third, in substantiating the principles of cooperative construction, Lenin pointed out that the forms of cooperation cannot remain unchanged under various historical conditions. When state power is in the hands of the working class, it is necessary to organize all the population in a cooperative on a sufficiently broad scale. This has called to life new work forms. The new factor is that, based on the union of the proletariat with the peasants, cooperation has created conditions under which every peasant will learn to build socialism in a practical way.

Thus, Lenin showed in his article that under the conditions of Soviet power the tasks of cooperation coincide fully as never before with the constructive activity of the proletarian party which is building socialism. Cooperation emerges as a force, which is directed toward strengthening the worker's and peasant's state, and enjoys its complete support.

On the basis of the cooperation principles developed by Lenin, the complete collectivization of agriculture was carried out in our country, and a new socialist type of cooperation was formed during the building of socialism. What features are typical of it? How does it differ from the old capitalist cooperative system?

The socialist type of cooperation differs from the capitalist one primarily in the fact that it rests on the SOCIAL BASE of the socialist system and is itself an integral part of the socialist system. The new type of cooperation has set for itself an accurately formulated and clearly expressed POLITICAL GOAL-- participation in the construction of real socialism and its strengthening in every way. Finally, the socialist type of cooperation develops on a fundamentally different ECONOMIC BASE. The strengthening of public property, and not private-property free enterprise with its competition struggle and pursuit of profits, emerges as the motive power of cooperative construction under socialism.

Thus, the speaker emphasized, the formation of a wide network of cooperatives on a fundamentally new basis was one of the most important accomplishments of socialism and a convincing confirmation in practice of the sagacity of Lenin's ideas. The CPSU Program emphasizes: "The shift of the Soviet village to a large socialist farm signified a GREAT REVOLUTION IN ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIPS AND IN THE ENTIRE TENOR OF LIFE OF THE PEASANTS... The age-old peasant question found its true solution on the basis of Lenin's cooperative plan." ¹¹

It is important to note, V. I. Kulikov continued, that the historical importance of Lenin's cooperative plan is not confined only to his role in the socialist transformation of the economy during the transitional period from capitalism to socialism. Lenin's ideas are constantly being developed by our party. During the present stage, this development is taking place along the following lines. First, the ideas about the general place of cooperation within the system of a socialist society in conformity with the conditions

of a state of all the people, which were put forward by Lenin, are receiving theoretical substantiation and practical implementation. The practices of real socialism convincingly refute the attempts of modern social reformers and rightwing revisionists to cast doubt on the vitality of Lenin's teachings and their "statements" that the need for cooperative property is allegedly disappearing in a developed socialist society and is losing its future. On the contrary, the role of cooperation is growing under the conditions of developed socialism. This is being graphically demonstrated in the coming together of the two forms of public property, in the further eradication of the essential differences between the city and the village, in the raising of the people's prosperity, and in the solution of other fundamental tasks in developed socialism.

Second, the further theoretical elaboration and practical realization of the propositions, which were put forward by Lenin on the interrelationship of cooperation with the other sectors of the economy in a state of all the people, are taking place under the conditions of developed socialism. During the present stage, it is being developed on our own socialist base, according to work forms and organization and in accordance with fixed production capital and its sources that are in the fullest sense of the word a socialist enterprise.

Third, Lenin's views on the relationship of cooperation and the individual have received further development. The principles of democratism are being strengthened in the management of cooperatives; the system for morally and materially encouraging their members is continuously being improved; and capabilities for thoroughly forming the personality of a "civilized cooperator", about which Lenin wrote, are being expanded.

Fourth, the commonwealth of socialist states, which is a new type of international relations, is contributing to the further development of Lenin's ideas on cooperation to an enormous degree. The cooperative organizations of this commonwealth are actively working together on bilateral and multilateral bases, exchanging experiences, coordinating their plans, strengthening economic ties, and supporting business-like cooperation with the cooperatives of the developing and capitalist countries.

All of this permits the conclusion to be drawn that the Marxist-Leninist teachings on cooperation are being successfully converted into a fact under the conditions of real socialism. All of the achievements in cooperative construction in our country are connected with the constructive activity of the CPSU. During the present stage, the party has placed before cooperatives responsible tasks, especially in the area of their participation in the fulfillment of the USSR Food Program. In this connection, the role of the steadfast and consistent implementation of Lenin's ideas, which were put forward by him 60 years ago in the article "On the Cooperative System" is growing more and more.

Doctor of Historical Sciences V. V. Gorbunov presented a report entitled "The Concept of the Cultural Revolution in V. I. Lenin's Last Articles." Lenin's last articles and letters, he pointed out, embrace a wide range of

problems in the socialist transformation of our country. Organically connected with each other, these works testify to the indissoluble unity of the tasks in economic, political and cultural organizational development.

The cultural revolution was regarded by Lenin as being closely connected with the solution of economic, social and political tasks. Any attempt to define the essence of the cultural revolution only by listing the goals, which had been advanced, and without revealing specific ways and means to achieve them does not provide an idea of the cultural revolution because it does not show the process but its result.

Lenin's last articles -- "Pages from a Diary", "On the Cooperative System", "On Our Revolution", "How We Should Reorganize the Workers' and Peasants' Inspectorate", and "Better Less, But Better"-- which are being considered in the consistency of their writing, provide a complete idea of the development of Lenin's concept of the cultural revolution.

In "Pages from a Diary", Vladimir Il'ich pointed out the task of overtaking the civilized countries and "reaching some really cultural level on the basis of our proletarian accomplishments".¹² He suggested practical ways to solve this question: increase appropriations for public educational needs and¹³ what is the main thing -- "help the village in its cultural development", and convert the urban worker into a guide for communist ideas among the rural proletariat.

The theme of the union of the working class and the peasantry -- a very important proposition in the theory of the cultural revolution-- was revealed in detail by Lenin in the article "On the Cooperative System". It is cooperation that must attract the working masses of the village to the construction of socialism. According to Lenin, "ONLY" one thing is necessary to carry out this task: Make our population so "civilized" that it will understand all the advantages of general participation in the cooperative system".¹⁴

The logic of Lenin's analysis led to the conclusion that a cultural revolution must be carried out since "a complete revolution, a complete period of cultural development for all the popular masses, is required" for the shift to socialism.¹⁵ The term "cultural revolution" appears for the first time in Lenin's article "On the Cooperative System" although ideas about it are contained in his earlier works. The carrying out of this revolution presented unbelievable difficulties both of a strictly cultural (illiteracy) and a material nature (a material base is required). Here again, Vladimir Il'ich's thought about the unity of economic and cultural tasks clearly shows through.

This Leninist proposition, the speaker pointed out, has something directly in common with today. In the article "The Teachings of Karl Marx and Several Questions on Socialist Construction in the USSR", Yu. V. Andropov pointed out the need to "insure a growth in the workers' prosperity, create the material conditions for the further flowering of their spiritual and cultural life"¹⁶

Lenin regarded the cultural revolution as being united with social and political processes: the cultural revolution and the political upheaval, the role of the cultural revolution in the socialist revolution. These questions, which were raised in the work "On the Cooperative System", were further developed in the article "On Our Revolution".

In refuting the statements of ideological enemies about the absence in Russia of the objective preconditions and a sufficient level of development of production forces and culture for the successful carrying out of a socialist revolution and the construction of a new society, Vladimir Il'ich once again showed the way to develop the revolution in our country: Begin with a political coup, with the creation of the prerequisites for a certain cultural level; and "THEN, on the basis of the worker's and peasant's power and the Soviet system, move to overtake other peoples."¹⁷

The main goal of the cultural revolution was the shift to a far higher cultural level of society in general and to a new socialist culture.

In conclusion, V. V. Gorbunov pointed out that Lenin's ideas have always been and remain the guiding thread in our forward movement. Long ago, the Soviet Union became a country of general literacy; in 1982, two-thirds of the population were people with a higher and secondary education. The creation of a socialist culture is one of the brightest accomplishments of the Soviet people. Great Lenin stood at its sources.

R. G. Zbrizher, who has been a party member since 1918, talked about the work of the 12th Russian Communist Party (Bolshevik) Congress.

V. I. Konotop, first secretary of the CPSU Moscow Committee, also presented during the Leninist readings a report entitled "Carrying Out the USSR Food Program -- the Practical Embodiment of Lenin's Precepts".

FOOTNOTES

1. V. I. Lenin, "Polnoye sobraniye sochineniy" [Complete Works], Vol 45, p 405.
2. Ibid., p 379.
3. Ibid., Vol 38, p 179.
4. Yu. V. Andropov, "Ucheniye Karla Marksa i nekotoryye voprosy sotsialisticheskogo stroitel'stva v SSSR" [The Teachings of Karl Marx and Several Questions on Socialist Construction in the USSR], Moscow, 1983, p 11.
5. Ibid., p 20.
6. Lenin, op cit., Vol 45, p 391.
7. Ibid., p 404.

8. Ibid., pp 404-405.
9. Ibid., p 372.
10. Yu. V. Andropov, "Shest'desyat let SSR" [60 Years of the USSR], Moscow, 1982, p 6.
11. "Programma KPSS" [CPSU Program], Moscow, 1976, p 14.
12. Lenin, op. cit., p 364.
13. Ibid., p 367.
14. Ibid., p 372.
15. Ibid.
16. Andropov, "Ucheniye...", op. cit., p 12.
17. Lenin, op. cit., p 381.

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NATIONAL

IRKUTSK 'EDUCATIONAL-LABOR' CAMP FOR JUVENILE OFFENDERS DETAILED

Moscow KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 3, 4, 5, 7 Aug 83

[Article by KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA correspondent N. Shirobokov, Irkutsk Oblast: "Recovery: Documentary Story About Difficult Adolescents"]

[3 Aug 83 p 4]

[Text] The brick headquarters building, a fence, guard towers. A few sad-faced women with heavy bags. Their children are standing alongside them. On the other side of the iron doors, the farewell with their sons will be brief and seemingly instantaneous. . . Why is it that it is not the mothers who are educating the sons, but, rather, these people in military uniforms? Why is it that, in the normal environment, the parents, teachers, and public organizations proved to be powerless, but here, on the other side of the fence, where society has isolated all kinds of flaws, we count on instilling in their souls the first outcroppings of good? Is this possible?

I was given a month in which to acquaint myself with a colony for minors, for becoming accustomed to the role of educator. The address is: educational-labor colony, intensified conditions, in Irkutsk Oblast. Here the evil has been filtered out, like sand in a river, and that sediment cannot be recognized in passing, from a distance -- it is dark and non-transparent.

These people are adolescents, our children, grandchildren, brothers, whose entire life lies ahead of them. It is necessary to begin with them, in order to understand how and where our moral cripples appear, to understand how to eliminate crime, and how to avoid losses in the matter of education.

"Detachment, at-ten-SHUN!" the colony duty officer shouts loudly, as though into space, and the shout is so loud that, in the woods behind the fence, the crows begin to chatter.

"Why is he shouting like that?" I ask the colony chief.

"Well," Aleksandr Viktorovich Chuksayev answers with a grin, "he is displaying his zeal and warning that the chief has shown up. . ."

"But you're not there yet. . .," I suggest. . .

"They're engaged in various suspicious activities here," Aleksandr Viktorovich says, taking up the idea. He is a tall, self-assured, smiling person. The inmates must idolize him.

"Well, what's your first impression?" Chuksayev asks, with the same sly smile. I cannot say anything. "I understand. Then I won't bother you."

Taking a sharp turn, the chief leaves the zone, leaving me in the care of an educator. As he leaves, the duty officer once again issued a deafening command. This time, one must understand, he is announcing that the chief has left and the "suspicious activities" can be continued. . . I realize that Chuksayev was joking, but nevertheless I feel slightly uncomfortable.

Then I notice that we are obviously not noticed by a colonist wearing a red armband, and thus he is violating his duties as duty officer. With his shorn head tossed back, the boy is watching a flock of pigeons circling over the roof of the mess hall. No, they didn't land. They changed their mind and flew off somewhere into the blue skies that are cut off by the fence. . . Noticing that I was watching him, the boy hurries to greet me, adjusts his beret, and goes off to one side. Glancing behind me, I see his curious, studious glance, but the message that one reads in it is not only curiosity: it's as though I'm the same kind of bird of passage here, and the doors of the check point are thrown open before me without any hindrance, allowing me to go where the passing vehicles are roaring by and the lads with fishing poles are hurrying down to the stream. . .

I saw this expression in the eyes of many people here. I had previously seen it in children in hospitals, and hence my first impression was: these are sick children. In this situation they evoke only compassion and sympathy.

But the diseases that these children have are unusual ones, and one should not forget that. I had previously leafed through the personal files of the children being educated: robbery, crimes of violence, theft, malicious hooliganism. . .

The children being educated have evoked these contradictory feelings. As for the colony, it turned completely topsy-turvy all my previous ideas about such institutions. There was none of the stark whiteness of hospitals or the gray concrete with barred windows. All around were the many colors of painted walls, collages, pictures, sculptures, and absolute cleanliness -- a garden, and that was all.

The housing area was quiet and empty. All the detachments were now in the production area, where they worked in assembly shops or attended school. From time to time, duty officers with red armbands would go running by, and somewhere out behind the club house one could hear the sound of shovels. It turned out that the lads were digging a ditch there for the water to run off and were engaged in beautifying the area.

"You've got a pretty place here," I said, in order to start up the conversation. "It's like a vacation spot."

"That's right," the round-faced lad said happily, "it's very nice, it's very pretty. . ."

"Oh, so what!" his partner, a slightly older lad, said, interrupting him. "It might be pretty, but we don't have any time to look at the beauty. I've never sat on those benches in front of the fountain even once. We don't have any time for that."

After my first acquaintance with the area and with the boys being educated. I had several questions to ask the chief of the colony. After I had unloaded all my opinions and doubts upon Chuksayev, he only nodded his head in a self-satisfied way.

"I didn't expect anything else," he said. "The first time I came to the colony, it really weighed down on me: even under the open sky, the air seemed to be stifling. Obviously, every individual has a well-developed sense of freedom. But I gradually got used to it, just as a doctor gets used to the smell of medicine. Yes, we have sick children here, and the diagnosis is almost the same for all of them: pedagogical, moral, and everyday neglect. It's a serious disease, an aggressive one, and tender emotions won't work here. The first thing you have to do is to think about how to help them. Take, for example, the person who is working here as our librarian, Vinariya Koroleva. She's a very nice, kind-hearted person. Fifteen years ago the 'children' here fractured her skull. It was only by a miracle that she remained alive. But an even bigger miracle is that she didn't go anywhere after that. She stayed on the job. Why did she do that? Well, you can guess for yourself."

How many films have been made, how many articles have been written, on topics dealing with the evils of alcoholism! But the most terrible, the most convincing accusations against drunkenness are here, in the colony for minors. They stand in a column here, with their hair cut "down to nothing," wearing identical jackets, but with different temperaments and desires.

Psychologist Lyudmila Nikolayevna Dzirko gets the most difficult cases. She is the first person to begin to study them. I leaf through her working notes, the accounting sheets, and her recommendations for the educators.

"Nikolay V., 17 years old. No father. Mother, former waitress. He lived, or, rather, drank on the money he got by collecting and selling empty bottles every morning. Work plan with the person to be educated: 1. Teach him how to read and write. . ."

"Yuriy K., 15 years old. Stepfather and mother frequently change their job location, drink, and live a disorderly way of life. The juvenile began drinking at the age of 7; since 10 he has been drinking regularly, frequently with his parents. His health has been greatly affected by alcohol, and his psychological condition is unstable. Attention should be devoted to the physical training of the inmate, to finding the opportunity for active work in the open air. . ."

"Vladimir Ya., 16 years old. Father was a hard drinker, and used to chase his wife with a hatchet. Vladimir is unable to evaluate his actions or his crime -- the murder of his father. Easily yields to other people's influence. Work plan for the inmate: 1. Determine his sponsors. 2. Regularly conduct personal individual discussions. 3. Reinforce his knowledge of subjects taught in primary school. . ."

The colony has two histories, as Aleksandr Viktorovich immediately differentiated (incidentally, he is a historian by profession) -- before Samoylov and after Samoylov. Many people sympathized with Vladimir Innokent'yevich Samoylov when he agreed to accept this colony: they felt that one more volunteer would "sink to the bottom of the pool." No measures employed here were able to introduce order: outwardly, the proper operating conditions were observed, but within it one felt the fermenting of the indestructible yeast of a completely different life that was known only to the adolescents themselves. When they were under supervision, the minor inmates obediently fell into formation, and went to sleep, but in the morning the administrators would discover broken windows, furniture bent out of shape, picturesque black and blue marks on the faces of the children who the "leaders" didn't like. The miscreants were punished and put into the disciplinary solitary cell, but they acted there as though they were "heroes," and those measures only increased their authority among the rowdies. What to do? It was impossible to put a checker on every inmate. And that is how the colony lived -- decrepit structures with broken windows, ground that was tramped down so hard that it was like asphalt, without a single blade of grass or tiny shrub. . .

Samoylov did not invent anything new. He only took advantage of the orders and the nonobsolete, but previously completely forgotten methods of Anton Semenovich Makarenko. A "strong personality" should be not the enemy, but the ally of the educators. After locating all the "leaders," the administration studied them carefully, in the attempt to understand them. The entire pedagogical collective concentrated their efforts on these informal leaders, and they found the "keys" to most of them. Many of the leaders became activists, and a support for the administration.

Self-administration -- how simple! The adolescents decide and do everything themselves, and you only observe from off to the side. But why, then, in many schools does this same self-administration exist more in arguments and discussions than in deed? I recalled how I used to teach a comrade how to drive a car: he drives the car himself, and I sit beside him, watching, but how much does that cost me! How I want to grab the steering wheel and put the car on course, and to avoid a risk! And that's how it is also for a teacher -- how much easier, how much more natural it is to administer oneself, than to be alongside as an instructor and mentor!

The new activists had not graduated from pedagogical institutions and at first they attempted to get others to obey them by using the simplest and most obvious "methods." It was necessary for the collective of associates to do a lot of work to make a major change in the psychology of street traditions. A large number of sleepless nights were spent by the educators in order to eradicate from the children the spirit of cruelty. Only then did the management and the pedagogical council begin the considerable expansion

of the activist group. Numerous commissions were created. They were given rights, and rather considerable ones. Gradually the activists in those commissions began to include practically half the inmates. Samoylov and the other workers in the colony spent their days and nights here, and infected and excited the boys with their irrepressible energy, and warmly supported the most fantastic plans.

"Boy, it would be nice to make atonement!" the boys would dream aloud, after becoming completely exhausted after a work day and especially after drill training.

"Well, who's preventing you?" the chief who respond animatedly. "Just figure out how to read the blueprint for that swimming pool, and tomorrow we'll discuss it."

"I had a dream," one of the minor inmates said another time, "that I was walking through our area, and all around me the trees were rustling and the grass was up to my waist, and giraffes and elephants were walking through the grass. . . Only I forgot how grass smells. . ."

"That's all right, landscape-lover," Samoylov said approvingly, and his eyes lighted up. "You can turn the fairy tale into reality. Do you think that would be hard to do? There's still the chairman of the detachment. I'll just take this little idea from your dream and toss it to the first detachment. . ."

To compare one another's strengths, to compete with one another -- that is a deeply ingrained feature of the boys' very nature. The detachments began to compete heatedly with one another in training, on the job, and in creativity. Gradually that competition for the creation of better everyday living conditions, sports opportunities, and beautification of the area involved newer and newer sections and detachments. Even the most stubborn and negligent individuals were enthusiastic about the overall idea. It was even necessary to restrain the especially enthusiastic ones.

As he returned from the job, every inmate carried back with him into the housing area a piece of turf, and then painstakingly watered it -- after they were all added together and taken care of, those pieces of turf became today's lawns and picturesque grass plots. Little trees began to grow. The artists' hands have converted the end of the school building into a tremendous, life-size copy of a forest by Shishkin, where almost real bear cubs climb up real tree trunks; in the midst of high grass, as on the prairies, skillfully paints giraffes, rhinoceroses, and elephants roam. . .

All this was created during nonworking hours, on the basis of the designs created by the former hooligans and criminals themselves, and by their own hands. Moreover, the production rates turned out to be truly Stakhanovite. It's only a pity that these abilities had not been discovered by the boys earlier, before they were incarcerated, back in their own courtyards and housing areas. . . The only kind of person who can lift the boys up and get them to do things like this is an enthusiast, but, unfortunately, an enthusiast is not a profession and it's not a job title. . .

Judged on the basis of the conditions for the competition for beautifying the housing area, the second detachment received the first prize -- a color TV. But everyone proved to be a winner: the adolescents and the educators themselves were convinced that culture and beauty can be prescribed even here, within the walls of a colony, and that they are able to create with their own hands actual miracles, and to do something good. And so now the inmates have a beautifully designed auditorium, and also a hockey court -- all this was created by the colonists themselves, on the basis of their own designs, without any help from professional builders or designers. Looking at all of this, I involuntarily thought what kind of a psychologist a person has to be in order to respond to the thousands of living strings in the adolescent, and what kind of heart a person has to have in order to see in a person the outcroppings of something that is better.

Three years ago Samoylov was promoted and left for another assignment, and he handed over the relay baton to Aleksandr Viktorovich Chuksayev. And those good Makarenko traditions (how can one fail to remember the remarkable words of M. Shaginyan, who, several days before her death, wrote, "The era of Makarenko began a half a century ago. . . The future belongs to it. The people themselves will put that methodology into the foundation of the new indoctrination of man") have not been lost. Rather, I am convinced, they are becoming stronger and are developing. True, as in every other living affair, problems exist. But we'll discuss them at the proper time.

[4 Aug 83 p 4]

[Text] Once Chuksayev said something interesting: "We must temper the inmates with confidence. That tempering is carried out every day by the colony council and by the large number of colony activists. But the educators also take an examination for confidence -- an examination that is evaluated by the inmates.

I too was subjected to that test when I became acquainted with "my own" first detachment. I hurried to justify the confidence.

Once, after having observed me sufficiently, the new secretary of the detachment council, Volodya Makhlin, approached me and asked, "May I entrust an important matter to you?"

"Of course."

"I want to get in touch with the Ministry of Railroads through the newspaper."

"What?"

He told me that many people here, like Makhlin himself, had received punishment for stealing from containers. And the situation began approximately identically for all of them. The boys are running down to the river past the station and standing on the tracks is a flat car with watermelons. "Hey, guys," the engineer shouts, "toss me up a couple of fat striped ones!" Well, if the engineer himself asks you to do it. . . So they also took some for themselves. Then they were convinced that it didn't make any difference

if the container was sealed -- all you had to do was to break the seal. Getting into the swing of things, they emptied out the iron boxes in broad daylight -- the railroad workers did not do anything to stop them. . .

"You know, it would be very easy to have the containers arrive intact," Makhlin suggested. "All you have to do is to load them in such a way that the doors face one another, and then there's no way you can get them open. That's not too hard to do, is it? That way the freight will arrive intact, and the guys won't be serving time here."

A simple and efficient suggestion.

If I were to write that absolutely everyone here is being re-educated, and is becoming a conscientious, talented, state-minded person, the reader would not believe me. And the reader would be correct in that disbelief.

"They tripped," read the blue words on the right foot. "On the criminal code," amplify the words on the left foot. In this way Viktor Zlobich, while in the investigational solitary-confinement cell, with the aid of tattooing, told what had happened to him. Were his feet to blame? They had not tripped on the cruelly beaten body of the boy his own age, and on that evening they had also carried their master safely away from the police, but they just couldn't get him past some little article in the criminal code. . .

"Yes, I understand it all!" Viktor says, jerking his shorn head. He does not like my irony. "Nobody gets here because of trifles. I realize that the head rules the fists and the feet. But I didn't believe to think that way until too late, after I was already here."

"Does that mean that the colony has re-educated you, and turned out to be wiser than your parents and your teachers?"

"Just going to court would have been enough for me!" Viktor says with a frown, evading a direct answer.

There are plenty of stories in the colony about Zlobich. He's far from being a "nice little boy." He thinks only about himself, but it is difficult to call him the worst one there. But he became the talk of the town thanks to his assignment: chairman of the council of the first detachment, Valeriy Stigneyev, was recommended for parole, and a vacancy appeared in the detachment. It was a high and responsible assignment, and therefore the educators and the inmates had to think very carefully before making any recommendations. Then, after long discussions and doubts, Zlobich was approved.

For Viktor that was certainly no promotion -- he had already been the chairman of the medical commission for the entire colony -- but it had greater responsibility.

A week later I met him and I failed to recognize him: the uniform, somehow, fit him more tightly. His step had a spring in it. He was a commander.

"How are things, chairman?"

"Normal. No problems! Everything's going well."

"No frictions with the boys?"

"I should say not! I don't talk much with them!"

"Superman. . .," I thought to myself. I didn't particularly like his tone and self-confidence. I shared my opinion with educator Mikhail Stanislavovich Temryuk. He only exclaimed, "Believe me, this assignment won't come to any good. . ."

Temryuk was opposed to Zlobivch's promotion to chairman, but he had been unable to convince his opponents. His reasons were strong ones: intuition can suggest as much as you want, but Viktor had indisputable organizing capabilities, as well as the personal incentives to work better than everyone else, to keep the detachment in first place. The fact of the matter is that the deadline was coming for Zlobich when the administration had the right to request his parole, but, as yet, Viktor had only had the so-called "first degree of correction." He could be paroled only after the third degree, and he had to serve it within the shortest period of time.

There is no other choice for Viktor. When he was free, he had a choice: he could help his mother or he could stay out all night; he could continue to attend PTU [occupational-vocational school] or he could run into a store and buy vodka. It's obvious what he chose, since he ended up here. But when he arrived in the colony, he was immediately warned by Neverov, who came from his hometown, "Remember, the boys themselves won't let you get into any mischief. You can go into hiding and 'clam up' for your entire sentence, and spend the rest of the time in an adult colony. Or you can work and learn what you have to do to become an activist -- and before you know it, you've got yourself a parole. You can make the choice. . ."

And so Zlobich made the choice -- he wasn't his own worse enemy. He really tried hard. His detachment got first place in the labor competition. There were no violations. Everything was going well.

Getting slightly ahead of myself, I might say that after three months I was told that Zlobich had committed a crime. Taking advantage of his power as chairman, he had extorted money from several colonists.

Yes, mistakes happen. Sometimes they are even as serious as in the situation with Zlobich, an activist, a chairman of a detachment council, on whom people had placed their hopes and trust and on whom they relied in their work.

But, nevertheless, the activists are a very important assistant for the administration and the educators. Among the newcomers who are serving time in quarantine, the rumors about the activists are the most improbable ones. They await the meetings with them with trepidation.

That trepidation is large and strong, that's certain. There are the activists in the sections: the chairman, the secretary. Each section elects persons who are responsible for internal order, production, training,

cleanliness and hygiene, etc. The same principle is used for the construction of the detachment activist group: the chairman and secretary, chairmen and secretaries of commissions. And the highest level is the colony council. It turns out that practically half the inmates are engaged in these agencies of self-administration. Each has his own precise duties and rights. There is no bucking this strength, even if you are a yard wide at the shoulders, especially since the actions of the activists are carried out under the constant monitoring of the administration. Whereas at the time of their inception the colonists who were attracted into the activist groups were the ones with strong muscles, at the present time the criteria are somewhat different. Strong will and character are desirable, but it is also necessary to have a good mind, a benevolent attitude, a sense of justice, and the ability to serve as a personal example in training, labor, and discipline.

That is the kind of person that several of the guys were: chairman of the colony council Volodya Likhanov, council secretary Kostya Shergin, chairman of the fourth detachment Sergey Veretennikov, the recent chairman of the first detachment Valeriy Stigneyev, and others. They place an extremely high value on their rank, their jackets and trousers are always well pressed, their boots are shined, and they wear on their chest and sleeves badges of distinction -- one of the small privileges afforded to the activists.

The rules require that the activists must not be separated from the others: everyone is supposed to be like all the rest. "If we're like all the others, what kind of commanders are we?" the inmates object in what I consider to be a reasonable way. "You should be able to see from a distance that someone is a 'commander'. . . ." Adolescents remain adolescents even here, where the ordinary world is set off by a high fence. Out there where they were free, they began their risky games of playing robbers and thieves, but here they are offered different game conditions, and they accept them.

. . . The training and indoctrination council is in session. There is a group of inmates in front of the door, like students taking graduation examinations at school. But they are probably more excited and the uniform they are wearing is no school uniform.

"Stigneyev, Valeriy!"

He approaches, introduces himself precisely, and tells about himself briefly. We can judge by that what commendations he has had in the colony. As for punishments. . . there haven't been any. Everyone knows Valeriy very well. He is the chairman of the best detachment, and therefore there will not be any meticulous questionings. A statement is read to the effect that Stigneyev will be given a job in Bratsk, where his parents live. Then the argument begins: his family is a bad influence, his parents drink, and the educator has gone to a lot of trouble to have his residence permit transferred to Angarsk and to find him a job there. The lad's fate is worrying everyone.

"Shutilin, Aleksandr!"

He tells his story: well, we were drinking a bit, and had a little fight in the park, and we took this money away from a guy who was slightly tipsy. . .

"That's a very easy story, the way you tell it," the educator says, interrupting him. "But, unfortunately, the victim died, so that makes you murderers. . ."

Shutilin is refused a parole.

"Kopal'chuk, Viktor! . . ."

Liberation is a very responsible act for the collective in the colony. They have their problems too.

It sometimes happens that the administration leaves certain activists until they are 20 years of age, so that they are not transferred to an adult colony. There are different procedures there, and it often happens that the activists have a cool welcome awaiting them: the evil forces are vengeful. Frequently an inmate who has been developing completely satisfactorily, before he leaves to go to an adult colony, becomes unrecognizable, and finds himself in the disciplinary solitary-confinement cell -- just so that he can earn himself a different reputation.

"I wouldn't stop with half-measures," Aleksandr Viktorovich Chuksayev feels. "I would leave all the inmates in the colonies for minors until they complete their sentence, without any transfers to adult colonies. In that way we would reinforce in them their desirable traits, would make available for our type of colonies the best cadres of educators, and -- something I would really like to see! -- put an end, once and for all, to the passing on of crime from one person to the next."

It's an interesting proposal. It's something that ought to be considered by the responsible persons in the law-enforcement agencies.

[5 Aug 83 p 4]

[Text] Kostya Shergin's sentence is inconceivable for his age -- 9 years. But this was already his second sentence. Yes, the boy has had time to do a lot of things and to ruin his life. . .

If Kostya were to go out onto a city street now, even wearing this government clothing that fits him so awkwardly, many girls would turn around and look at him. A tall fellow with the posture of an athlete, and with sadly smiling eyes. In his entire appearance, his way of conducting himself, and his manner of speaking I do not find even a hint of criminality. There is nothing rollicking about him. On the contrary, you could call him bashful, because he blushes so easily.

In his not too distant childhood, there was a time when he was called "Dandelion," because of his soft, puffy hair. The cherry trees and apple trees were blooming, and his grandmother's kindly hands smelled of apples and milk. The rolling fields of white flowers, the boundless fields beyond the station, the intoxicating aromas of the meadows -- that's how it was at grandmother's place, in Krasnodar Kray. A snowstorm may be howling, but

you could play a while with it: Kostya would put a bag of produce on the road and the wind, as though trained, would push it toward the house. And his father, having fallen onto his back, waving his arms and legs, would shout that Kostya had given him a "licking," while his mother, sitting at the camp fire, would smile at their commotion. This was the stern Magadan to which his parents had moved. What broad expanses opened up then for Kostya -- boundless fields, endless tundra, and now, wherever he went, wherever he looked, his eyes would encounter the fence -- which he knew down to each and every board -- and the guard towers.

There had been a kind of watershed in Shergin's boyish life. For a long time Kostya had been persecuted by the street despot Serega Gorokhov, and he had got a lot of bruises and slaps from him. Then the day came when his cup of patience ran over. He was sitting on a bench with some of the guys, when all them froze in terror, as they caught sight of the smirking face of "Gorokh," who was planning his next amusement. Kostya began to shake. "If you come any closer, I'll hit you!" he forced out of himself, without even looking around. Serega, of course, came closer. For the first time Kostya hit him in the face, without even knowing where his fists were landing, and "Gorokh," unable to withstand the onslaught, made a shameful and hasty retreat down the street.

Kostya's head began to spin. The boyish games suddenly became uninteresting. He was favorably received by the older guys and, the most flattering thing, by such an experienced person as Kolyan, who had been sentenced twice for theft. They saddled mopeds, made overnight fishing trips, drank wine in front of the camp fire, and felt that they were very grown up and independent. Kostya, very shy by nature, also invented exciting stories about victorious fights and compliant girls. . . And then what? They stole motorcycles and went riding in the breeze. They stole a little Zhiguli, got drunk, had an accident, and then a police car stopped under the windows of the Shergins' apartment. Things took a chilly turn. Kolyan, as a repeated offender, was sent to serve the rest of his sentence, and Kostya was given two years probation. Leaving the court, Shergin felt within himself not shame or repentance, but, rather, an unexpected pride, as though he had overcome a dangerous curve in front of everyone's view: now I too have got through everything, and you can see what kind of risks I take. . .

At home, his mother used to cry. "Kosten'ka," she would say, "what made you take someone else's property? Couldn't you have resisted it? If you wanted to get behind the wheel, don't you think that your father would have let you drive our Zaporozhets? After all, we earned that with our own hands. . ." Maybe life would have been straightened out for Kostya, although at that time he considered his parents' entreaties to be just empty lecturing. He simply began feeling sorry for them, and soon he entered a PTU [occupational-vocational school] not far from home, in Komsomol'sk-na-Amure, and became his own boss.

In the dormitory, he had to be confirmed among the self-willed boys. Many were impressed by his sentence, and Kostya did everything in his power to strut around and confirm his reputation as a desperate person. Clubs were formed. In the evenings they would "arrange" a bottle, and without a drink

a day seemed to be unexciting and completely wasted. He became friends with a nice girl, and she tried to take care of him, she would take him to the movies and try to persuade him, but he felt that he would live by his own mind.

Once she dropped by to see Kostya. She knocked on the door, but he locked the door and jumped out the window, where his friends were waiting. That evening they decided to get their hands on some money for a drinking party. They noticed a slightly tipsy man on a dark street. They ran up to him, hit him on the head, took his watch and cap, stole his money, and then gave him a beating. . . In the park they found another passerby -- he also gave them everything they wanted. Soon they began going to the park at night as though they were going to work.

Rumors began spreading around town that a gang was in operation, and it was dangerous to be out walking at night. For them those rumors were a certificate of honor: look at us, we're only kid robbers, and the whole town is afraid of us.

Shergin today does not blame anyone other than himself for his downfall: he himself chose a life that consists of miserable satisfactions and sharp sensations. It is possible to experience joy from labor, having overcome in life some height and having given presents to a close person, but in order to do that, you have to work. Or you can simply get drunk -- and that also becomes for a time a kind of joy and an easy thing to do. And so that is the life path that was taken by Shergin and most of his current comrades in misfortune. They brought misfortune both to the people they knew, to their relatives, and to themselves.

Kostya was almost an outstanding student in the primary grades, when all the lessons were conducted by a single teacher. But when different teachers came, it became more difficult. He neglected his mathematics, and then, without mathematical training, he failed at physics, chemistry. . . He would have liked to make up for what he had missed, but that requires considerable efforts, and Kostya did not like to strain himself.

He wanted to engage in sports, but at first he was not accepted into the sections where he wanted to go: he was too young. Then he was not accepted into the same section, once again for reasons of age: he was too old. The trainers did not see any future sports star in him. Kostya poked around here and there and then lost interest.

Kostya did not have any concept about work. In the village his grandmother did everything that had to be done, and in his family, his mother did everything. He and his father never lifted a finger, but still they had a nice warm, clean house and they had a tasty dinner on the table. It was felt that Kostya's only responsibility was to study. But a person can study well or he can study half-heartedly. Nothing would be changed, one way or the other. You could even stay away from classes completely. The world would not come to an end, and maybe they would not even accept you for the second year. Kostya already knew that. He did not have any obligations, but he had all the rights, everything that was guaranteed by the constitution.

He dreamed of becoming a pilot, but his dream proved to be too high and he gave it up. He dreamed of going to sea, but a friend of his left town but failed his navigation exams. Kostya immediately changed his mind: why should I bust my gut? I'd rather do something easier.

. . . And then the day of reckoning came. Photographs, front view and profile. Fingerprints. Black "khe-be," canvas shoes. Investigational solitary-confinement cell.

The door slammed shut with a dull sound. The locks clanged. . .

Nine years--won't that make a difference? It's my second sentence. Does that mean that I, Kostya Shergin, am a repeated offender? All my youth in prison -- is that possible?" His thoughts were all tangled with one another, and he had the sensation that all this was happening to someone else.

Kostya was in the quarantine of the educational-labor colony at the time when the new procedures had only just been established. The changeover time was not an easy one. Soon there was a meeting with the activists. "They're powerful looking," Shergin thought to himself, "it would be best for me to hide out." The first days flew by fast: the unusually early rising, straightening up, work, drill training. He fell into bed like a dead man as soon as retreat sounded. He did not find anyone who agreed with him in wanting to overthrow the activists.

Quite recently he had been the center around whom the rest of the world turned: his parents, friends, girl friends, teachers. Here life began moving along iron, implacable rails from which you could not make a turn. At 0600 hours he arose, got dressed in 35 seconds, and from that time, until retreat, he could not sit down until ordered to do so. They marched in formation to work, they marched in formation to school, and it was prohibited to move across the territory by oneself. Drill exercises and inspections on the parade ground, calisthenics, irrespective of the weather. At any time the authorities have the right to inspect one's personal belongings. No one would want a life like that.

Once it became completely unbearable, or maybe he just wanted to stand out from the others: he asked someone on the housekeeping staff for a razor blade and, right there in the classroom, he cut himself on the wrist. "That's it!" he thought. "No problems. . ." The people at the medical unit stopped the bleeding and Kostya was punished. No one considered him to be a hero. But when he spilled that blood, he also lost his malice.

The rigid living conditions, his fatigue from working and from training, his living from reveille to retreat, the requirement that there not be a single wrinkle on the bed and that the floors had to shine, the need to overfulfill one's norm today, the thought that tomorrow the boy at the next bunk might get a parole, the need to prepare a display on the competition -- there was nowhere you could turn to get away from that implacable "you have to." The only thing that remained was "I want to," and it grew and grew until it reached the very horizon, crowding out everything else -- "I want to go home, I want to be free, I want to get away from my past. . ."

Much was provided by the long discussions with detachment chief Gennadiy Aleksandrovich Naumenko (currently the deputy chief of the colony). He did not give any lectures, but, rather, seemed to be playing chess with an unskillful partner. He would agree, nod his head, yield, and then, with a sly little smile, would say "checkmate" in two moves. There were many discussions with him about the meaning of life, and about the real and the imaginary.

"Yes, yes," Naumenko would say, as though enviously, "you lived a nice life. You robbed, you got drunk, you had a good time, you got a hangover, and you took a little rest behind bars. And you really saw a lot -- the fence, the towers. . ."

Kostya would argue to the point of tears, asserting that he was fed up to the throat with all that, and saying that he would turn out to be a completely different person. . .

"I don't see that," Naumenko would say sternly, "I don't see that person. It's not necessary to turn out to be that kind of different person. You have to become that kind of person right here and now."

The work began. Work to improve oneself, to improve others -- work to get rid of the load of the past. The section secretary, the chairman of the internal order detachment, the secretary and chairman of the same commission for the entire colony, the secretary of the colony's labor competition staff, the secretary of the colony council -- that is Shergin's "service record" during those four years.

"But where has the 'romance' gone to?" I ask Kostya.

He suddenly burst out into a vicious monologue.

"In order to love, you have to know how to hate. In order to love and value freedom, you have to hate all these dregs of humanity. Grease floating on the top of clean water also makes pretty patterns. It's a living rainbow. But when you look closely at it, it's actually. . . I'm fed up with all of it."

"Where does all of this come from?"

"From having nothing to do. From having all the screws loosened. When they were free, they didn't want to study or work, and they didn't know how to -- that's the chief trouble."

"Well, you've made that conclusion for yourself. What's next?"

"I'll be released. I'll pass my driver's tests and I'll go get a job in a village. So no one will know where I came from. In the village, people judge a person by the way he works. I'll bring up my children to be real people. You know, if they told me right now, 'Give us one finger for each year, and you'll be released,' I would chop them off right now."

You do not have to be afraid for Kostya Shergin. Everyone believes in him. there's no possible way he can return to his old way of life.

[7 Aug 83 p 4]

[Text] "To a good educator" is the fancy inscription on a homemade fountain pen. I notice the fountain pen in the office of the solitary-confinement cell on educator Lyubov' Konstantinovna Gritsenko's desk. She speaks very softly to the boys, in a reassuring, "back home" manner, and they are attracted to her. They tell her their griefs, they ask her for advice as though she were a relative. For the newcomer the colony begins with the quarantine, and the first meeting sometimes determines a great deal. But no pedagogical methods, none of the most authoritative measures, replace a good heart, a mother's participation, and therefore Lyubov' Konstantinovna is simply irreplaceable here.

Gritsenko has been working in the colony for ten years. Previously she was an educator in a kindergarten, and an instructor in school.

We leaf through the record log: the absolute majority of the boys who have come here during the past three years were educated by only a mother, or by a mother and stepfather. The parents of many of the newcomers were drunkards, who frequently changed their place of work, and several of the fathers and mothers had also served time.

Lyubov' Konstantinovna also talked patiently and softly with one very unpleasant newcomer, who completely justified his last name, Dikiy [Wild]. He had graduated from special school, where he had been sent at his mother's request. He had run away, committed a crime, and had been sent to a general-conditions colony where, in order to avoid work, he swallowed a spoon and, while in the medical unit, had committed yet another crime. Everything said to him would encounter a crooked smirk -- he seemed to be saying, "I heard you, but just try -- you'll never change me. . ." He stated with pride that he had never read a single book in his life and he wasn't planning to rack his brains. With much difficulty he finally remembered that "The Fairy Tale About Fisherman and the Fish" had been written by Pushkin, and he thought that Eugene Onegin was a famous detective. He went only to movies that were "about thieves." He could not explain what the Komsomol is. "I think that they issue trip tickets to all kinds of people who distinguish themselves. . ." He did not even know when his mother's birthday was or how old his sister was.

"Is he hopeless?" Lyubov' Konstantinovna Gritsenko asks. "It's too early to judge. People like this sometimes come to life. We'll work with him."

Yes, the entire collective at the colony will work with him, from day to day, taking no days off or holidays. Everyone will work -- the educators and detachment chiefs, the teachers in the school, the foremen at the PTU and in production, the people on the housekeeping staff, the guard service, the colony administration. All this complicated pedagogical mechanism is supposed to work smoothly, without any interruptions, in constant interaction.

"We have a very interesting job. A real teacher would have to dream about it," detachment educator Mikhail Stanislavovich Temryuk says. "Because a

teacher in an ordinary school has conducted classes, and the class hour has been organized. Then all the students have moved out into other worlds: the family, friends, the street, sport, creativity, etc. But here, they never leave. They have everything right here -- the school, work, home, and relaxation. I'm everything -- a teacher, a psychologist, a sociologist, a checker, a mass entertainer. Everything in one person. These four people are friends with one another -- what bond unites them, on what basis have they come together? This one is a loner -- why? Here are three newcomers, but one of them is a cunning guy -- better keep a sharp look-out. You notice very interesting things here. For example, in recent years I've been getting more and more inmates from families that are extremely well provided for. They're very difficult children! Without a doubt, the root of the evil lies in the family. But the school should not be discounted either. There is no masculine hand there. . ."

But then Natal'ya Yakovlevna Ivanova, second detachment educator and secretary of the Komsomol organization of the colony workers, categorically disagrees with Temryuk. She feels that it is specifically the woman's hand that is stronger in pedagogics.

Once Natasha graduated from the trade technicum, but she soon realized that that was not her path in life. After graduation from the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs school in Ufa, she was sent here. That was perceived by the leadership as a calamity. Only a girl, and right in the midst of this "rough company."

Now those fears are remembered with probably only a smile. It turned out that the presence of a woman only disciplines the boys, and pulls them up more sharply, and during difficult moments they seek support specifically in her -- because Mama isn't around. . .

"It is engrossing work," Aleksandr Anatol'yevich Bichevin says pensively. He is educator in the first detachment. "But the work is also. . . not very prestigious."

Aleksandr recently graduated from the school of history at a certain institute, and the bitterness in his words is understandable. Like many of his associates, he makes no haste, when meeting people, to inform them that he works in the colony. True, the place is not intended for Sunday strolls, but it is a pity when the shadow from the high fence also falls on the people who work there. And the people who are probably responsible for that are we writers, who have become accustomed to placing the final period after the phrase "the criminal got what he deserved." A talented detective finds the criminal, and the colony worker finds the person in that criminal. One can argue which plot is more dramatic or more complicated.

"Dear Vladimir Aleksandrovich! Life on the outside is so beautiful, my head is spinning! I can't even believe how I could have lost it at one time because of my stupidity. Everything is going along well. I'm not looking for my old friends. They don't interest me. I haven't been able to find work as an artist, as you advised me, but I'm working as a wood-turner at a souvenir factory. This also requires an artist's viewpoint."

"... I haven't had a careful life, but I don't even want that now. . . . But there's no way you can conceal the past. Believe me, no matter how well I behave -- with my comrades, fellow employees, and neighbors -- I see their smiles, I hear their kind words, but I'm in a constant state of tension, constantly expecting that someone is suddenly going to blab about who I am and where I've been, and where the proper place is for people like me. . . . It's difficult. And probably that's how it's going to be for the rest of my life. If anyone had ever told me, "This is your goal, this is the direction, and if you achieve that goal, that will be your justification. . . . What can you suggest to me? . . ."

Those are lines taken from letters written by Gennadiy Beskin to third detachment educator Vladimir Aleksandrovich Bekarev. The lines were written by someone who was previously "incorrigible."

When Gennadiy arrived at Bekarev's section, Vladimir Aleksandrovich tried to find out the reasons for this desperate rebelliousness -- all he had to do was to study the file carefully and have a talk with the guys. The lad considered the sentence to be unjust: he was trying to defend a woman from a drunken brawler. But the brawler proved to be stronger, and then a knife became available. . . . His intentions were noble, but the result, in his words, was only a tragic accident -- why had they sentenced him for that?

A hot-headed, uncontrollable adolescent -- how does one force him to give a sober evaluation to himself and what has happened? That task had already been posed. Gennadiy suffered greatly from the separation from his mother. He felt that he was guilty to her -- this was the justification for a confidential discussion. The inmate was awkward, physically not very developed, and was ashamed about that -- Bekarev selected for him some literature on sports. He became interested in soccer, to which he himself was not indifferent. And Bekarev persuaded him to stop smoking. Work began. The lad began to take a completely different view of himself and of those around him. He got the desire for physical and spiritual self-improvement. The result: these letters on the educator's desk and the newly begun young life.

Vladimir Aleksandrovich would probably not be taken for the role of educator in a movie: his thick eyeglasses, the smile of an absent-minded intellectual, a bearing that is definitely not that of an officer. But how the inmates love him! How freely they tell him their deepest secrets and doubts, convinced that he will be the most understanding and the most just judge!

Bekarev began as a foreman in production, and then, having become an educator, took a tangible loss in earnings. Why had he done that?

"You know, there's a plan there, but there are people here," Vladimir Aleksandrovich says with a guilty smile. "But one can ask other people the same question. The chief of our detachment, Mikhail Aleksandrovich Bobylev, could transfer to a calm assignment with a salary differential and free time. He refused it. Even though he's a student taking correspondence courses and this calm job would have been ideal for him. To use the standard expression, we save and create people. We see the results of our labor. Happiness like that is not given to everyone."

"The colony chief calls you 'a treasure trove of pedagogical experience and talent.' Could you please allow me to help myself from that 'treasure trove'"

"There's nothing particular that you can get from it. You have to understand the guys and remember your own childhood. You have to keep your word at all costs, no matter what it costs to you. You have to be kind-hearted. And that's all. If you give some commendation to the most difficult boy by giving him your trust -- perhaps by way of an advance -- he might crack his forehead, but he'll do everything. These boys are terribly conceited. They love to win, to compete, to be the first. It is necessary to take those qualities of age into consideration. And the thing that is the absolutely most important element -- like cement for construction workers -- is collective responsibility. That used to exist in large families, but it has been lost in modern families. It is the most valuable thing that can be imbued in our colony."

Aleksandr Viktorovich Chuksayev, colony chief, Chekist and pedagogue, former Komsomol worker, arrived in that system in a completely natural manner -- he sensed the duty of childhood. At one time in Bratsk he happened to meet Anna Pavlovna Soboleva, a woman with a young spirit, a woman who captivated them, a gang of young boys, by the romance of the exploits of Tamerlane. The boys would jump up at 4 o'clock in the morning in order to have time to plant little trees, to knock together a sandbox, to split firewood for a pensioner . . . If another kind of organizer had been there with them, the boys would have been just as enthusiastic about breaking into storage sheds or swiping motorcycles. Remembering that, Chuksayev decided to instill good in this, the most complicated sector of the struggle for a person.

I have attempted to show how Aleksandr Viktorovich and his associates work. But does everything depend upon them? The newcomers arrive at the colony, and it would be better if they did not arrive. As long as these sad reinforcements keep arriving, however, we cannot rest easy. We cannot be indifferent to the serious costs and flaws in the education of children, primarily on the part of young parents, and teachers, many of whom are Komsomol members.

We had many frank and candid discussions with workers about the manner in which to reinforce their difficult labor and how, in the ordinary living conditions, to continue to Makarenko pedagogics. Frequently I was a witness to bitter insults directed at certain callous adherents of a "play-it-safe" policy when dealing with the fates of those who have been in educational-labor colonies, and, of course, Komsomol workers were criticized for their superficial and formal attitude to the development of genuine sponsorship or tutorship among that category.

"There exist labor, training, discipline, self-government, competition -- all that is remarkable," Aleksandr Viktorovich says, developing his favorite thesis. "But the monotonous labor can also cause a person to become dull. And the strictest discipline, the habit of subordinating oneself, can paralyze a person's will and independence. Competition, having become an end in itself, will be only a version of a game of chance. You have to agree that you cannot

educate in this way. Because creativity must be at the very heart of everything. The working of an idea, of a search, constant self-improvement, the striving to endow others -- that is creativity, that is education. We attempt to maintain that kind of atmosphere in the collective -- it can be seen in the way the colony is set up. . . . Because everything that beautifies our territory is by no means a whim, but, rather, a vital necessity. Tell me, now, can a person instill purity of soul on a dirty body? I think not!"

Then Chuksayev smiled slyly and said, jokingly, "I always tell myself, 'Don't talk pretty.' Well, the chief has got blown up. He has to divide two apartments for the entire collective without anyone getting offended -- this is the first time in five years that they have been allocated. Getting fodder for the pig farm is almost a circus attraction. Stockings in large sizes here have become an item in short supply here.-- what could the reason for that be? It's necessary to fire someone in the housekeeping unit who keeps getting drunk. And things like that. . . . So you have to forgive me."

Then, unexpectedly, he admitted, "Do you know what I've been dreaming of for half a year? Of getting home on time, just like everyone else after getting off of work, and then going to the movies with my wife. I'd really like that!"

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NATIONAL

ILLEGAL VIDEO FILM SUBCULTURE IN USSR REVEALED

Moscow KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 24 Aug 83 p 2

[Article by S. Borisov and B. Pilipenko: "The Video Loop Has Washed over the Fate of the People Who Decided To Live off a Dirty Business"]

[Text] Visitors to the bar of the restaurant called "Fal'shivyy Gelendzhik" did not drop in as usual, but rather filtered through. Especially close to midnight. The vigilant guard with a sweep of his eye determined "the right people" and only then did the chained door with a big sign that said "No room" open slightly.

Regardless of the precautions, rumors leaked out: there in the bar something is being shown on video. And the story tellers began to whisper, because to talk about this "something" aloud was simply indecent.

Yes, loathsome pornographic films were really shown. When the most carefully chosen audience had arrived, the repertoire expanded to a complete set of the three "S's" -- sex, supermanhood, and sadism. Sometimes they ran films with special "filling" -- violent slander against our history and current policies. Only the entrance fee remained invariable -- 50 rubles per person.

One can imagine what kinds of "persons" can afford such a fee. But all right, there is someone to deal with people like that. But we are interested in the person who did not pay anything at all when he came into the bar. They looked at him obsequiously, like lackeys, not taking their eyes off his mouth when he savoringly made short work of the shashlyk that was specially prepared for him.

We will not torment the reader: this is the same person who supplied the Fal'shivyy Gelendzhik with the loathsome Western film concoction.

STOP-FRAME. Livshits, V. B.. Born 1948. Worked as an engineer at one of the Moscow scientific research institutes. However, only remotely involved with scientific research. Gravitated toward other operations. Speculative ones. And recently toward the resale of a wide assortment of pornography films, buying them up from a certain Sevryugov who was living in Moscow.

There on the Black Sea coast this newcomer had a reputation as an all-powerful bigwig, but actually he was a commonplace shipping clerk for an amateurish gang who circulated Western video items and called themselves "Sevryugov and company."

Now the firm members and their accomplices have been forced by the will of the people's court to watch another film -- in the "clink." Their punishment has been set: eight years for the "head" of the firm, and the terms they deserve for the rest. Nevertheless, in some bars and apartments of good friends the Sevryugov films writhe like a coiling snake. The reader needs to know who made these films and for what purpose.

Here we found volunteer "helpers" who, it is true, regarded the finale of the story which had caused such a sensation in their own particular way.

POST-FRAME: The WASHINGTON POST and PHILADELPHIA ENQUIRER in concert with various voices and supporting voices squeezed out a rather large tear on the occasion of this judicial process. They squeezed it out and betrayed themselves. You see, it grieved them that Mr. Sevryugov's firm had failed so quickly. After all, they could have made an "underground film," which in the opinion of Sovietologists the workers and peasants in the USSR need so much. And all because of greed (here the sympathizers hit the nail on the head) which, they said, was the undoing of a good thing.

In a word, it is now clear what was behind the crocodile tears. It plainly benefits some people that there finally appeared among us those who "rented" films which could "wash away" brains and corrupt and devastate souls, introducing the unsophisticated spectator to the rubbish heap of "world culture." Introducing it right in the home with the help of an ordinary television set and a rather small attachment. Needless to say, with special cassettes.

Let us say it directly: there is a tangible shortage of domestic equipment and cassettes with our kind of subject matter. They tried to fill this breach. The dirty business is what brought together in one pack people who were greedy, unscrupulous, and corrupt, people for whom money was everything.

POST-FRAME: Even in the West the booming video business causes alarm and disgust among the majority of normal people. On the basis of many thousands of so-called films for "home movies" there is frank pornography, sexual perversion, negation of moral values and propaganda for cruelty and violence.

Under this dressing politics is also artificially served up. They do not spare the tape and cassettes to defame our domestic and foreign policy and the achievements of socialism.

It is not a secret: something of this concoction has filtered through to us with the help of some dishonest foreigners. Figuring that people would be found who would want to warm their hand by reselling them. They were found. One of these was Sevryugov.

STOP-FRAME: Sevryugov, V. S. Born 1936. Married. Four children from various marriages. Artist-draftsman. Incomplete higher education. Vain. High opinion of himself: Whatever I do, I do to the limits of my abilities. Had a taste for collecting antiques, old weapons, ikons, and samovars. Even with his own library of rare books, hardly ever held them in his hands. Did not subscribe to or read newspapers. Was convicted of speculation.

Contemplating the matter, Sevryugov clearly pictured how the future spectators, receiving the cassettes, would begin to open their fat purses and give him handsome sums. He could visualize his own studio crammed with orders and filled with clients. It was fortunate that he had room to spread out: his studio was 160 square meters.

The only thing he could not imagine was that this new "hobby" would become a unique finish for him. In all respects, so to speak.

But this would happen later.

We will put aside concerns related to searches for equipment, the tape, and of course, the "specialists" who could keep their mouths shut.

He himself allotted duties. A certain V. Starchenko (Sevryugov later would call him a "scum for whom the only punishment is a monetary fine") was appointed technical director of the "firm." His duties were to insure the work of the equipment and help the clients operate the video systems correctly in their homes.

STOP-FRAME: Starchenko, V. N. Born 1946. Higher education. Deputy chief of a department at a design bureau. Recently not working anywhere. Undiscriminating in personal ties. Inclined to dubious amusements. Never thought about the sources of his secondary income.

Both the head of the "firm" and the technical director attached particular significance to who stood at the control panel of the video recording. It was night work and not as simple as it seems. After all, one would have to watch so much in order to pass out the "milk for hazardous working conditions" at the right time.

However, the matter never got as far as milk, since the salary of a certain Yu. Safonichev at the "firm" exceeded his salary at his basic place of work by five times. It is true that they had to give the foreman at work 50 rubles a month so he would let them leave early and not be asking "about their red eyes."

And before their eyes, which were truly red from insomnia, they had, in addition to the television screens with masses of sweaty bodies, the inexorable schedule for release of the films. The owner indefatigably watched over this, and in case Safonichev began to do poor work and defective goods were found he would give the order: he could be fined 100 or 200 rubles and told off.

Sevryugov personally took care of the schedule of spools, that is, luring clients to the viewing. He tracked down lovers of "eroticism" and invited them to his studio. There he showed his "wares."

They did not have to fear that one fine moment the door would open and the powers that be might ask what was going on. The firm's driver and at the same time person in charge of tape storage, V. Lisitsyn, confirms that the former division inspector of militia P. Kupriyanov watched over this place as the apple of his eye, and even allowed himself to resort to the services of the "firm" for entertainment.

Gradually the deals shifted from the capital a little further to the south. Especially at the height of the autumn season, when the "decent," in the opinion of firm members, public came down to the seashore.

It goes without saying, of course, that the boss himself was the chief trade representative. It was precisely Sevryugov who showed up there. The rest, as they say, was a technical matter.

So Sevryugov and his company descended from their video track into the courtroom. But the firm had collapsed earlier. It collapsed from within.

The moral unscrupulousness of the boss and his spiritual poverty even with his outward glitter were not unimportant here. Sevryugov colored his life as he had once colored ikons from which he wanted to make money. He wanted to appear all-powerful.

In the company of his assistants he would abandon himself to his favorite amusement: he pasted 100-ruble notes on the wall and threw a knife at them. He boasted that he had "his own" masseur, bath-house attendant, and even bodyguard of former athletes.

STOP-FRAME: (from a film made by fellow employees of Sevryugov's "firm"): a snow-white yacht rocks slightly on the Astrakhan waves. A close-up of Sevryugov's self-satisfied physiognomy. He is dressed as a sheriff. A shot rumbles and an empty bottle of Martel is smashed to smithereens.

And in fact, what kind of person was he? Cowardly. He slept little and fitfully even with a strong sleeping pill. And he dreamed that someone was following him. A hiding place is revealed. Gold and silver ingots fall to the floor. Handcuffs clank...

All right, such dreams do come true. But the matter had not reached the point of handcuffs yet. And Sevryugov continued to unroll the sinister spool of his video cassettes.

"Sometimes I had to make five copies from one original," V. Lisitsyn would write in the silence of his prison cell. "Often we used ordinary criminal tricks: put copies in boxes marked as originals, and naturally fleeced another 150 rubles each."

A certain Danuta Bogushevskaya, an arch speculator who modestly called herself an "art critic," attended to sale of the cassettes, including the forged ones. The kind of art she brought to the people became clear when they caught her red-handed delivering the goods to one of the clients.

When the first bell, as one might say, rang the boss got scared in earnest. What properly should have happened sooner or later, did happen. A daughter of one of the "customers" watched a vile film from the Sevryugov series and almost went out of her mind. She was put in the hospital with a severe nervous disorder.

Having seen an enormous number of these "horror films," V. Sitnik, one of Sevryugov's accomplices, would write that under the influence of these films his psychological and moral perception of the world was being restructured.

POST-FRAME: It is not necessary to possess a special imagination to picture what influence the firm's products had. On anyone you please, not only on young people, as we have learned. In America where "home movies" are widespread, for example, sociologists invented the term "vidiot," composed from the words "video" and "idiot." The English made up the word "cretinometer." Both in the one case and the other it is accurately expressed. And this is the reaction of people who are to some extent "prepared" for this monstrous output by the daily capitalist television and film diet, from which they are successfully making a "perfected instrument of stupidity, madness, torture, and stupefaction."

It is not accidental that in the West a tear was shed on the occasion of the rapid "collapse" of Mr. Sevryugov's "firm." I'll say! A filthy business that corrupted spirits was cut short. And how much they would like it if such films were shown not at home but on the wide screen, advertising the notorious all-permissiveness, the cult of the heavy boot which tramples honor, conscience, and humanity!

RETRO-FRAME: "I recall my life with horror," Sevryugov would write from his solitary confinement cell awaiting interrogation, "how I started working with video."

"Citizen investigator! Lock me in my studio -- there are the same bars and steel door as in a prison cell. I want to finish even a part of my work for the children of the city of Perm."

What is this, hysteria or repentance? And where suddenly did such a fervent love for the children of Perm come from? We will explain: in the intermissions between "showings" Severyugov undertook to build a model of a child's fairy-tale town. But what use would it be? Other orders devoured his time and they inexorably dragged the firm to the precipice and burned out all that was sacred in the hearts of its members. If only it were just in their hearts! What was sown by the firm will again and again bring up its poisonous shoots, and again and again it will echo in the emptiness of spirit of those who have not held out against the tawdry brilliance of cheap "video items."

In a fit of candid revelations, the head of the collapsed firm compared the prison cell with his studio. All right, the comparison is accurate. Only in the last case he shut himself up voluntarily. The same thing happened to his accomplices, who did not notice how the spool of the imported videotape was being tightened around their necks.

12,424

CSO: 1800/1627

REGIONAL

KIRGHIZ MINISTER OF CULTURE CRITICIZED FOR PROTECTING WRONGDOERS

Frunze SOVETSKAYA KIRGIZIYA in Russian 31 Jul 83 p 3

[Article by SOVETSKAYA KIRGIZIYA correspondent V. Maricheva, Frunze (SOVETSKAYA KUL'TURA, 26 July 1983), under rubric "Returning to What Was Printed": "After the Reprimand"]

[Text] Almost simultaneously the editorial office received two alarming letters from Frunze. Before writing to SOVETSKAYA KUL'TURA, the authors of the first letter, they had repeatedly got in touch with the KiSSR Ministry of Culture, requesting the ministry to establish order at the Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet and to create the conditions for creative work. But, despite the promises, everything remains unchanged. The situation at the theater has become a complicated one chiefly at the fault of A. Dzhumakhmatov. He has definite merits. He has been awarded the rank of USSR People's Artist. At the present time he is simultaneously manager, chief director, and the chairman of the theater's artistic council. In addition, he works as the chief conductor of the symphony orchestra on radio and television, as well as instructing at the Institute of Arts. And yet, during recent years, the theater has not produced a single major play. The rehearsals are constantly being disrupted, and the performing artists who are not performing in plays lose their proficiency. Previously the theater was famous for its creative successes, but now the collective is seething with squabbles and an abnormal situation has been created.

The authors of the second letter are students at the Institute of Arts. During the state examinations, the writers state, the instructors continued a practice that had been existence in previous years, and collected from the students money to pay for . . . the dinners for the members of the examination commission at a restaurant, and it was also necessary to contribute a certain amount of money for a graduation banquet, also at a restaurant. The students had written a complaint to the republic's committee of people's control. The complaint bore 27 signatures. But now a few had begun to repent: rector N. Davlesov and prorector N. Kormushin had begun to "expose" the "whistle-blowers."

Now let us return to the article "Everything Is Not Well at the Institute," which was published by our newspaper on 17 October 1980. It is necessary to do this in order to get a better understanding of reasons for the present

unfavorable situation both at the Institute of Arts and in the opera theater, as well as in a number of other institutions that are subordinate to the KiSSR Ministry of Culture.

Three years ago I went to Frunze, also in response to a letter from the Institute of Arts. At that time the letter was written not by students, but by teachers. The letter mentioned a scandalous situation: instructor B. Shersheyev had forcibly dragged one of his students into his home, in the attempt to make her marry him. The situation ended in tragedy. Such a grievous situation was not, however, just a random occurrence. The authors of the letter stated that an abnormal situation had developed at the institute. Rector N. Davlesov had surrounded himself with yes-men, and the instructors now included such dubious individuals as Shersheyev and Akzhigitov. Shersheyev had been accepted at the institute after he had been kicked out of the Osh Pedagogical Institute for taking bribes while administering entrance examinations and for forging his work record. Akzhigitov had also had unpleasant dealings with the law. While in Frunze he was brought before the bar, and, on the basis of statements made by students, criminal action was also brought against Shersheyev.

It may be for this reason that the things said in the city about the Institute of Arts are extremely uncomplimentary. Repeatedly the question of the unhealthy moral climate at the educational institution was discussed by the bureau of the party's Oktyabr'skiy Rayon Committee. And after the tragedy with Shersheyev's student, rector N. Davlesov was given a strict reprimand.

While preparing the article "Everything Is Not Well at the Institute," I happened to visit the police stations and the city's sobering-up station. The people there were well acquainted with several of the students and "pedagogues" from the Institute of Arts, who were participants in drinking parties, frequently joint ones, right there in the dormitory.

At that time I was surprised by the position, or, rather, the lack of a firm position, taken by the instructors. They agreed to talk with this correspondent only tete-a-tete, and asked that their names not be given. They frankly admitted: they were afraid of vengeance on the part of the rector. But what surprised me even more was the position taken by Minister of Culture D. Nusupova. With enviable persistence she attempted to convince me that there was no sense in publishing the article.

"Of course we have shortcomings," she admitted. "We shall eliminate them. But there is no reason to compromise Nasyr Davlesov. We'll stick up for him."

When the article "Everything Is Not Well at the Institute" was published, practically a detective story began. The 17 October 1980 issues of SOVETSKAYA KUL'TURA disappeared instantaneously from the news stands in Frunze. The issues of the newspaper were also removed from the files both at the institute and in the city's libraries. However, the tumultuous activity of the "detectives" was put to an end, and, on instructions from the KiCP Central Committee, the article was reprinted by the republic's party newspapers. It was discussed at the bureau of the Oktyabr'skiy Rayon Committee and the party's Frunze City Committee. During the discussion the incorrect positions taken by the managers of the institute and the republic's Ministry of Culture

were strictly evaluated. But the editorial office did not receive any replies to the statement made by the newspaper.

And the board of the republic's Ministry of Culture did not discuss the article until three and a half months after it had been published. They were waiting there, trying to gain time, waiting for the passions to die down and for all the brakes to be applied. After a session of the board, Minister of Culture D. Nusupova reported to the editorial office that, at the institute, "the administration of the schools and departments has been strengthened, and the demands made on the selection of personnel has been intensified. Demandingness with regard to labor and instructional discipline has been increased. There has been a noticeable improvement in the ideological-indoctrinational work. . ."

Incidentally, let us compare the decree issued by the board and the reply to the editorial office. The decree states, for example, "The article 'Everything Is Not Well at the Institute' raises important problems in ideological-indoctrinational work, and the selection and placement of personnel. The institute has actually had instances of serious violations of labor and instructional discipline, and crude errors in the selection and placement of personnel, and the demandingness with regard to ideological-indoctrinational work has been reduced. . .". The reply to the editorial office looks somewhat different: "The article 'Everything Is Not Well at the Institute' is basically justified in pointing out the serious shortcomings. . ." Please note the use of the word "basically"! Consequently, one might assume that the article also contains inaccuracies, or maybe even untruth. In addition, it was emphasized in the reply, "many of the facts pointed out in the article had already been discussed at the bureau of the party's Oktyabr'skiy Rayon Committee and at the board of the Ministry of Culture. In other words, we already knew everything, we reacted promptly, but the correspondent is only retelling something old. And what about the rector? The rector, according to the reply sent by the Ministry, "at the board meeting admitted all the shortcomings that had been pointed out in the article," and gave assurances that "specific steps will be taken to eliminate them and achieve a fundamental improvement in the ideological-indoctrinational work at the institute. That obviously had touched the hearts of the ministry board: the rector was given a mild reproach and was required to "increase his personal responsibility."

That is the history of the question being discussed. But the real state of affairs at the institute is discussed by the letter that the students sent to the editorial office. We might add to it an excerpt from a statement by the republic's committee of people's control: "It was established by inspection that the initiator of the extortion of money from students was the Dean of the School of Piano Theory, Yu. Kuznetsov, with the open connivance of Rector N. Davlesov and Prorector N. Kormushin. . ."

This time Minister of Culture D. Nusupova took it upon herself to go to the committee of people's control and ask them to convey to her the inspection documents so that the culprits could be punished with all severity. The ministry board removed Kuznetsov and Kormushin from their assignments. Once again, A. Davlesov was let off with a mild fright. True, the board's decree dealing with this matter contains a paragraph specially devoted to him: "The negative

incidents that have been ascertained do not remove the responsibility from the rector, Comrade A. Davlesov, and he deserves the strictest punishment." They really shook a warning finger at him! But. . . it turns out that on the days when the state examinations were being given, Davlesov did not even show up at the higher educational institution being administered by him. He was located at a music school "for the purpose of the efficient selection of secondary school graduates for the institute." Three years ago, one might recall, the ministry had called upon Davlesov to "increase his personal responsibility." But now the fact that he had disavowed his responsibility and had allowed the state examinations to proceed at their own momentum was interpreted as a "mitigating circumstance." The rector was given yet another strict reprimand and thus, no one knows for how many times, someone "stood up for him."

It might be that there would have been no need to dwell in such detail on the events at the Institute of Arts if they had not reflected the work style of KiSSR Ministry of Culture, which work style also has an influence upon the work of the Kirghiz Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet. One can understand the unrest of the authors of the letter to the editorial office. Quite recently that theater was considered to be one of the best in the country. It had to its artistic credit such operas as "An Optimistic Tragedy," "The Dawns Here Are Quiet," and it was the second theater, after the Leningrad Theater, to stage the opera "Peter I [Peter the Great]." But the productions that are currently being put on are, for the most part, remakings of old productions. One-act operas are being restored, and the theater has lacked a main director for long time. In response to complaints arriving at the KiCP Central Committee, a large representative commission was created, and that commission has recently completed its work.

Recently the institutions subordinate to the Ministry of Culture have required the constant attention of the party agencies and the committee of people's control. Last year, for example, the committee of people's control verified a number of complaints from the Kirghiz Philharmonic. Serious administrative omissions and financial violations were discovered.

The bureau of the KiCP Central Committee and the bureau of the Frunze City Committee, during the past year, discussed the questions of the republic's leading dramatic theaters -- the Kirghiz and the Russian. The need for this was urgent. The Kirghiz Dramatic Theater, like the opera theater, has lacked a main director for several years. The moral-psychological climate that has developed there does not promote any creative successes. The bureau of the KiCP Central Committee has required the republic's Ministry of Culture to rectify the situation at the theater and to render the necessary assistance to it.

The bureau of the party's Frunze City Committee discussed the repertoire policy of the Russian Dramatic Theater. Mention was made of the alarming lack of plays dealing with present-day topics, and of the gravitation toward frivolous entertainment. In particular, it was recommended to the Ministry of Culture that it take a serious and demanding attitude toward the selection of plays and to the formation of the repertoire. In June 1983, at a bureau session of the KiCP Central Committee, there was a sharp discussion of the serious ideological-artistic miscalculations in the plays presented by the Russian Theater of Drama.

Lack of a well-principled approach is a dangerous and many-sided phenomenon. The environment that nurtures it is provided by irresponsibility and incompetency. The June 1983 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee demanded strict accountability for the work sector that has been assigned to everyone -- from the ordinary worker to the minister.

Especially rigid accountability is required of the Communist administrator, since he is obliged to serve as an example, both official and moral. The Ministry of Culture "stands up for" Rector N. Davlesov, and fails to heed the complaints about director A. Dzhumakhmatov. The article published three years ago issued a serious warning about the unfavorable situation in one institute. Today, the facts convince us, the "virus" of that unfavorable situation has spread. It would be desirable to give a thoroughgoing evaluation to the state of affairs in several of our republic's institutions of the arts.

5075

CSO: 1830/425

REGIONAL

UKRAINE COMMUNIST PARTY OFFICIAL OUTLINES TASKS OF NEW ACADEMIC YEAR

Kiev RADYANS'KA UKRAYINA in Ukrainian 1 Sep 83 p 2

[Article, under the heading "Before Beginning the New Academic Year," by Feliks Mikhaylovich Rudich, chief, Science and Education Institutions Department, Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine: "Unity of Education and Upbringing"]

[Excerpts] At the present stage of the developed socialist society, the role of public education is growing as never before. Its achievements are incontrovertible; they are being accomplished on a foundation of great political and socioeconomic transformations.

The forming of a new man is not simply a goal but an essential condition for building communism. "The party is seeking," stated CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade Yu. V. Andropov in his speech at the June (1983) CPSU Central Committee Plenum, "to ensure that a person is brought up in this country not simply as the carrier of a certain sum total of knowledge, but first and foremost as the citizen of a socialist society, an active builder of communism, with his characteristic ideological attitudes, morality and interests, high standards of work and conduct."

Implementing the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and 26th Congress of the Communist Party of the Ukraine, party and soviet agencies, republic ministries and agencies, primary party organizations, and teaching staffs have conducted content-rich preparatory work for the new school year in all areas of educational institution activities. Considerable attention was focused on strengthening teaching facilities. Approximately 200 schools have been built, accommodating 130,000 students. Six new vocational school complexes are now in operation, as are classroom and laboratory buildings at the Kiev Polytechnic Institute and Slavic Pedagogic Institute. Housing and services for students have been substantially improved.

A new facility for the Institute for Advanced Training of Social Sciences Teachers at Kiev State University imeni T. G. Shevchenko has been built; it will become a genuine teaching methods center for this republic's higher educational institutions for improving teaching of Marxist-Leninist science and Communist indoctrination.

The most important task facing us in the current school year is that of strengthening the ideological-political directional thrust of the teaching and indoctrination process, the organic unity of teaching and indoctrination, and a close link between public education and practical realities, with the practical business of building communism. Teaching staffs and primary party organizations at educational institutions are called upon to concentrate more attention on matters of preparing young people for highly productive labor, particularly in the domain of material production. Initiative and creative participation in labor and public affairs, as well as conscious discipline are the fundamental criterion of the ideological maturity of Soviet boys and girls. Reform of the general curriculum school and the vocational training system will be focused on resolving these problems.

A clear-cut political information system has been devised and is being extensively adopted, with the aim of strengthening ideological-political indoctrination of pupils and students at this republic's educational institutions. Persons involved in political briefing activities include highly-placed party, soviet, trade union, and Komsomol officials, scientists and lecturers. Considerable importance is attached to organization of leisure time, development of a network of diversified activity groups and specific interest clubs, organization and conduct of reader conferences, competitions for the best composition, and stepping up work activities in the neighborhoods.

An important place in the ideological conditioning of young people is occupied by indoctrinating youth in a spirit of patriotism and internationalism, fraternal friendship among the peoples of our immense land, a point which was stressed by comrade V. V. Shcherbitskiy, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine and member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, at the June (1983) Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine.

Indoctrination of young people is a complex process which does not tolerate attention to form with consequent detriment to content, clichéd lack of originality, or red tape. The decisions of the June CPSU Central Committee Plenum demand that ideological-indoctrination work with young people be conducted at a qualitatively new level, that activities at general curriculum schools, vocational schools, secondary technical schools and higher educational institutions be filled with profound social content, combining indoctrinational measures with active participation by each individual in accomplishing economic tasks. Particular attention should be focused on eliminating instances of a passive attitude toward schooling and labor, a lack of discipline, and manifestations of bourgeois philistinism among a certain segment of youth.

3024

CSO: 1811/1

REGIONAL

RAPO BRINGS IMPROVEMENTS TO GORIYSK RAYON, CHAIRMAN CLAIMS

Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 5 Jul 83 p 2

[Article by Valerian Khutsishvili, chairman of the Goriysk rayon agrarian-industrial association: "Taking into Account the Interests of the Partners"]

[Text] It was again emphasized at the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum that implementation of the Food Program is one of the country's key economic problems. Its resolution is a concern for all the people. And somewhat earlier, in his speech at a meeting of the union republic communist party central committee, kraykom and obkom first secretaries, when speaking about ways of implementing the Food Program CPSU Central Committee general secretary comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov noted that for this it is necessary to enhance among rural workers their sense of a businesslike attitude toward the land.

The rayon agrarian-industrial associations [RAPO's] are designed to solve this problem. As is known, they have now been functioning for more than a year in all rayons in the republic. The experience of our RAPO shows that today this form of managing the agrarian-industrial complex is optimal and best suited to today's requirements.

Take our agrarian-industrial association in Goriysk. During this time it has already achieved successes in the matter of increasing the output of agricultural produce. And this despite the fact that the process of perfecting the new management system has still not been finalized.

The land should have but one master. This is axiomatic. But until even quite recently in practice this principle was a an extremely complicated affair. Take our region. The sovkhozes and kolkhozes operated here in isolation on one side, while, say, the "Gruzgoskomsel'khoztekhnika" association was on another. There was no unified approach or concentration of efforts to achieve the main goal--obtaining a high final result.

What has changed in the rayon with the creation of the RAPO? First and foremost, the mutual relations between the partners in the agrarian-industrial complex. The association includes 75 organizations. Its council has been set up, which includes not only the leaders of all the kolkhozes

and sovkhoses in the rayon but also specialists who have set up scientific testing stations here and the chiefs of the rayon technical-engineering services, the land reclamation and water resources services, and the enterprises in the processing industry.

A total of 87 members have been elected to the council and a board of 13 has been formed. A council statute and regulations have been drawn up and confirmed. Funds have been created that are used mainly to increase the output of agricultural produce. Much has already been done to centralize management. This has made it possible to substantially modify the relationships between the RAPO subdivisions.

Take the vehicle operators. They used to be interested only in increasing the volume of work completed. Now the situation is different. Within the framework of the association a system of moral and material incentive has been devised for the vehicle operators. And we are orienting ourselves on determining who the best are primarily from the final result--increased output of agricultural produce.

This made it possible last year to achieve a definite turning point in the matter of increasing the contribution made by rural workers in our rayon to the Food Program. Some 5,000 tons of grain, 119,000 tons of fruit, 32,000 tons of sugar beet, 16,000 tons of vegetables, 8,500 tons of milk and so forth were sold to the state.

The advances are obvious, but this is only a first step. Ahead, many problems confront us. One of the most important of them is the accelerated development of the rayon's main sector, fruit growing. In terms of fruit production and procurement the rayon has the best indicators in the republic, but this in no way means that all reserves have been exhausted. The per-hectare indicator for yield is still low and the material-technical base is not as it should be.

These matters are at the center of attention in the association. By the end of the five-year plan we intend to almost double the per-hectare yield by means of reconstructing old extensive, piecemeal orchards and creating intensive fruit plantations. Vehicle operators, land reclamation workers and specialists from the scientific establishments in the rayon have been recruited into active participation in implementing this program. This problem can be resolved only together. And not only this one.

Take the new relations that have now been established between the raw material suppliers--the kolkhoses and sovkhoses--and the processing enterprises. It would seem that they should also previously have been creative and strong. The quality of output from, let us say, a canning plant, depends largely on the quality of the raw material supplied. But it is only under the conditions of the agrarian-industrial association that these contacts have become truly businesslike and creative. And this means that the volume of output produced at the plant and its profits are increasing, along with its proportional participation in the centralized funds of the association. This is how the chain works.

The advantage here is mutual. The funds are common funds. And they are used primarily to carry out measures for production specialization and concentration, the introduction of new equipment, social needs, and financial aid for the farms. In short, the funds are utilized taking into account the interests of all the partners in the agrarian-industrial complex.

We attach great importance to the links between the farms in the rayon and our scientific establishments. They now participate not only in improving planning for agricultural production but also improving agricultural techniques and introducing leading experience. This makes it possible to make extensive practical use of progressive methods in farming. The experimental sovkhos-tekhnikum, the testing station in the village of Skra, and the variety-testing support point are participating actively in this work.

We also expect much from the further development of the land reclamation system. We plan to allocate substantial funds for this work from the association's centralized funds. A start has already been made on the design of a drip-irrigation system. It will be introduced on an area of 300 hectares in the Tiriponskfruit association. We have also started reclamation work in the gorge of the Liakhvi River where it will be possible to place more than 1,000 hectares of very fertile land at the disposal of agriculture.

We are also trying to resolve another problem more quickly, namely development of a system of collaboration between the public farms and the public to produce meat. Under the conditions prevailing in our rayon the role of private subsidiary plots is great. We have therefore decided to place them entirely in the service of production. The villagers are now eagerly collaborating with the public farms. This year about 4,000 contracts have been signed for the fattening of livestock. According to preliminary calculations, collaboration with the public will make it possible to bring meat production on private subsidiary plots up to 800 tons.

Collaboration also makes it possible to some degree to solve the problem of labor resources. Who is it who are mainly engaged in "backyard" livestock raising? Pensioners and juveniles. Apart from the, so to speak, practical return, collaboration also makes it possible to achieve another no less important goal, namely instilling in children a love of rural work.

But, of course, we devote our main attention to developing public livestock farming. Many shortcomings and problems have built up here. We are therefore trying to activate work in this direction: the Tiniskhidskiy dairy complex, which handles 400 cows, has been reconstructed. Hog-raising facilities at most of the kolkhozes and sovkhoszes have been expanded and reconstructed.

More than a year has elapsed since the Goriysk RAPO was set up. Some of the results can now be cited. Compared with 1981, last year the farms in the rayon produced 1,034 tons more vegetables, 4,006 tons more sugar beet, 6,922 tons more fruit and 251 tons more meat. Profit rose R1,193,000. Overall profitability increased 6.9 percent.

Establishing the association is an extremely complex process. The mere fact that it has been set up does not mean that all problems automatically disappear.

An enormous amount of work faces in improving agricultural production and working out lines for managing it.

The council of secretaries of the primary party organizations set up in the rayon must also play its part in this. It coordinates and directs the activities of all communists in solving the key economic problems--precisely those that were stated to be the most urgent at the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum. They include questions of introducing the achievements of scientific and technical progress and leading experience, the efficient use of equipment and many others.

With the creation of the council of secretaries the efficacy of party work has been enhanced and the organizational role of the communists has been increased in the matter of further improving economic management methods and the efficiency of agricultural production.

In short, much has already been done by the RAPO. But we have even more still to do. This includes transferring fruit growing to an industrial basis, improving the farming system, selection work, and improving the engineering-and-technical services.

9642
CSO: 1830/351

REGIONAL

UZBEK CC CP SECRETARY KHODZHAYEV ON IMPROVING LABOR PRODUCTIVITY

Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 5 Aug 83 p 2

[Article by A. A. Khodzhayev, secretary of the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee: "Use Reserves for Increasing Labor Productivity in Construction More Fully"]

[Excerpts] The questions of raising the effectiveness of capital investments, putting underway projects in operation within the established periods and creating conditions for construction workers for highly productive labor are in the center of attention of the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee and the government of the republic.

As a result of adopted measures, the five-year plan task set for 1981 and 1982 was fulfilled successfully as regards input of fixed capital, capital investments and construction and installation work as well as construction of social and everyday service facilities. The 6-month plan for assimilation of capital investments and for construction and installation work was fulfilled this year, the input of fixed capital was greater than during the first 6 months of last year and a considerable quantity of housing, schools and children's, medical and other cultural and everyday service facilities were constructed.

During the second half of 1983, like during the 11th Five-Year Plan as a whole, collectives of construction and installation organizations of the republic will have to solve complex tasks in further developing all sectors of the national economy, including the fuel and power complex, the Food Program and production of goods for the population.

Among the largest construction projects of these sectors which must be put in operation during the current five-year plan are the first stages of the Novo-Angrenskaya and Talimardzhanskaya state regional electric power stations, a crushing complex of the Almalyskiy Mining and Metallurgical Combine, mill "300" of the Bekabadskiy Metallurgical Combine, new capacities of the Tashkentskiy Tractor Plant and its affiliate in Leninsk City of Andizhan Oblast and capacities for the production of ammonia phosphate fertilizer at the Novokokandskiy, Almalyskiy and Samarkandskiy chemical plants, of carbamide and defoliants at the Ferganskoye "Azot" Association and ammonia at the Chirchikskoy Electrochemical Industry Association. Also to be commissioned are finishing factories of the Andizhanskiy, Bukharskiy and Tashkentskiy textile combines and some other

large enterprises of the light, cotton ginning, food, meat and dairy industries as well as agricultural projects. Much housing and many social, cultural and everyday service facilities are also to be constructed.

In order to successfully implement this enormous program underway it is necessary to use the existing economic opportunities and reserves to the maximum and to conduct construction without increasing the number of construction and installation workers and only by increasing labor productivity.

Like in any other sector of the national economy, the increase of labor productivity in construction is ensured by accelerating scientific and technical progress and on the basis of introducing in construction activity of leading experience and latest achievements in domestic and foreign science and technology, industrialization and comprehensive mechanization, skilled engineering preparation and organization in carrying out construction, transforming a construction site into an installation one and training and upbringing of personnel who must persistently work on this problem every day and every hour with high awareness of their duty.

Many collectives of construction and installation workers are not fulfilling the plan for this most important economic indicator of their activity. For example, in the republic's Ministry of Construction the increase of labor productivity during 2.5 years of the five-year plan should be 8.5 percent but in reality it remains at the 1980 level, and at the same time the average wages increased by 5 percent in the same period. Proper attention was not devoted here to accelerating scientific and technical progress and to fulfilling internal measures for introducing new equipment. Last year, eight out of 30 measures for new equipment were not fulfilled, and fulfillment of the remainder did not have any effect on labor productivity. The increment of construction and installation work is fulfilled here not by increasing labor productivity but by increasing the number of workers. The ministry now has 1,100 more of them in construction and installation work and auxiliary activities than provided for by the plan.

Collectives of the Ministry of Rural Construction, the Ministry of Installation and Special Construction Work, the Main Central Asian Sovkhoz Construction Project administrations and mobile mechanized columns [PMK] are lagging behind their five-year plan tasks for increasing labor productivity and in the State Committee for Water Resources Construction [Goskomvodstroy] and the Tashkent Main Construction Administration [Glavtashkentstroy] labor productivity was reduced as compared with the 1980 level. Tasks for increasing labor productivity are not being fulfilled by construction and installation organizations in some oblasts. The Kara-Kalpak Autonomous Republic and Andizhan, Samarkand, Fergana and Khorezm Oblasts have reduced labor productivity compared with that which they achieved during the first half of last year, but have increased the average monthly wages.

There are reserves for increasing labor productivity in every collective. First of all, they are in accelerating scientific and technical progress, in intensifying the relations between construction science and production and in raising its role in speeding up the sector's transition to an intensive path of development. It is precisely this that can ensure fundamental shifts in capital construction.

However, some ministries and departments drag out introduction of scientific and technical achievements and do not fulfill completely their own measures on these questions, and in some cases their implementation does not have any effect on the growth of labor productivity. Last year, for example, the Tashkent Main Construction Administration failed to fulfill six of the 15 tasks for new equipment and it also failed to meet its task for experimental construction.

Some ministries and departments have for a long time failed to use the completed scientific research developments, including on elimination of manual labor on the basis of comprehensive mechanization of construction work. Attitude toward this important matter must be changed radically.

In his speech at the June (1983) plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade Yu. V. Adnropov pointed out that "...to raise the effectiveness of production there must be a drastic reduction in the use of manual labor, above all, by means of comprehensive mechanization." At present we have more than half of all construction workers engaged in manual labor, especially in finishing and roofing work and other labor-consuming operations. Therefore, it is necessary to shift from mechanization of individual kinds of construction and installation work to comprehensive mechanization of all kinds and to automation of production processes on the basis of further introduction of highly productive construction machines and mechanisms, means of small-scale mechanization and computer facilities. It is necessary to continue in a more persistent manner the concentration of construction machines and mechanisms, means of small-scale mechanization, equipment and devices in specialized administrations where their greatest use is ensured.

According to estimates made by specialists, it is possible to achieve an increase of approximately 5-10 percent in labor productivity by raising the level of mechanization and automation of construction and installation work. For this purpose construction ministries and departments will have to adopt measures in the immediate future to reduce intrashift idling of construction machines and mechanisms, reduce the time the machines are under repairs or waiting for repairs, increase the shift coefficient of their work and create favorable work and rest conditions for machine operators, especially those who work according to the duty-shift method.

Under present conditions when a leading position at construction sites is occupied by large, highly productive machines and mechanisms and large-size reinforced concrete and metal structures, such powerful factors in increasing labor productivity as prefabricability of basic kinds of work cannot be said to have exhausted their potential possibilities, not completely but to a fixed degree, and this requires looking for and finding new technical and organizational solutions, including further raising of prefabricability in construction and the level of plant fabrication of structures and articles.

Currently nearly 80 percent of all internal walls and partitions of industrial buildings and even enclosures are still being built of small-scale materials, predominantly of bricks. A great number of workers are engaged in this. The same number are also engaged in plastering and painting brick walls and partitions. Getting rid of such unprofitable work means using a great reserve for increasing labor productivity.

Here the decision must be made by the Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry, whose duty it is to develop in every way possible the output of prefabricated room or building partitions, and also by contracting ministries and departments who must study projects more deeply and demand that clients and planning organizations sharply reduce the use of nonindustrial products and wet processes.

Analysis shows that the greatest part of labor expenditure in construction is on work done directly at construction sites, and the least on manufacturing structures and products under plant conditions. It is necessary that the greatest part of it be assumed by enterprises of the construction materials industry.

Therefore, the efforts of engineers, all organizers of construction production must be concentrated on sharply increasing the level of plant fabrication of these structures and by this means transfer fulfillment of labor-consuming processes from construction sites to these enterprises. It was estimated that the Ministry of Construction [Minstroy] and the Tashkent Main Construction Administration alone will be able to release more than 2,000 men at construction sites by using volumetric sanitary engineering cubicles of complete plant fabrication in construction of residential housing and improving quality and raising plant fabrication of wall panels and ceilings to a readiness for painting or papering.

The state allocates enormous funds to construction workers for establishing their own production base, and it must be used to full planned capacity.

The decisions of the November (1982) and June (1983) plenums of the CPSU Central Committee especially stress the necessity of putting things in capital construction in proper order and strengthening the state, planning and labor discipline, which makes it possible to considerably increase labor productivity without additional capital expenditures. These instructions of the CPSU Central Committee have formed the basis of the entire activity of party, soviet, economic and public organizations of the republic.

The periods for constructing projects and labor productivity of construction workers depend to a considerable degree on the level of planning and technical and economic decisions. It is precisely at the planning stage that introduction of scientific and technical achievements in construction activity and accelerating the rate of growth of labor productivity are predetermined. Hence the requirement to constantly improve planning and estimate work. Party organizations must devote more attention to this important sector of work.

Planning organizations must wage a resolute struggle for broad and general introduction in construction activity of new materials and effective progressive structures. It is necessary to increase the volume in constructing general purpose industrial buildings and facilities on the basis of lightweight structures. This type of buildings, which are produced by modern industrial enterprises, are of high plant readiness, are delivered to a construction site in full complement and are rapidly assembled with minimum of labor expenditures.

Increasing volumes in the use of industrial building finishing methods is the actual task. The "wet" processes must be generally replaced by using large-scale reinforced concrete, cement-slate, aluminum, plastic and other facing slabs and by papering surfaces with rolled paper and polymer materials with an adhesive layer.

Experience over a period of many years has proven convincingly that the contract brigade is a great reserve for increasing labor productivity in local collectives. According to estimates, every million rouble's worth of construction and installation work conducted by this method saves labor of 12 people. The average output per worker of such a brigade exceeds the indicator of ordinary brigades by 20 and sometimes 25 percent. Contract brigades reduce the planned production cost of completed work by an average of 3.2 percent.

However, experience also proves that effectiveness of brigade cost accounting could have been even higher if conversion to contract method was preceded by a more thorough engineering and technological preparation and much stricter adherence to contractual obligations.

One of the important conditions for increasing labor productivity is creation of stable labor collectives and elimination of personnel turnover.

Reserves for raising the effectiveness of construction production and increasing labor productivity are available in every construction and installation organization, at every construction site and project and in every brigade and work place. Drawing the attention of every worker, of all engineering and technical personnel and of everyone involved in and responsible for daily work on increasing labor productivity in construction to these reserves is a task of paramount importance.

In every ministry and department, in every collective of construction and installation organizations it is necessary to review measures aimed at ensuring the assigned rate of increase of labor productivity and to intensify monitoring of their fulfillment.

9817

CSO: 1830/404

REGIONAL

UZBEK BURO CC CP HOLDS REGULAR SESSION

Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 28 Jul 83 p 1

[Article: "In the Buro of the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Text] A regular session of the Buro of the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee has heard a report on preparations for collecting the harvest of raw cotton, corn and rice and on progress in procuring cereals, fodder, fruits, vegetables, meat, milk and eggs. The buro drew the attention of party, soviet and economic organs to the necessity of sharply intensifying the rate of procurement, especially of fodder, fruits and vegetables and ensuring their complete safekeeping and gave them corresponding instructions.

The buro discussed the work of party, soviet and military organs and public organizations of the republic in preparing youths for service in the USSR Armed Forces, noted shortcomings that exist in this work and confirmed a comprehensive plan of measures of party and soviet organs, public organizations of the republic and the Red Banner Turkestan Military District aimed at further intensification of military and patriotic upbringing of youths and their preparation for service in the Soviet Army. The buro gave corresponding instructions to oblast, city and regional committees of the soviets of people's deputies, the military commissariat, the DOSAAF Central Committee and the Komsomol Central Committee of Uzbekistan, the Ministries of Education, Higher and Secondary Specialized Education and Health, the State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education and the Committee for Physical Culture and Sports.

The buro heard a report on marking the 2000th anniversary of Tashkent City and approved the proposals by the Tashkent city committee and the Tashkent city soviet of people's deputies on this question. The Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers and ministries and departments of the republic were instructed to render practical assistance to the Tashkent city committee and the Tashkent city executive committee in preparing for and marking of the anniversary.

The buro examined and confirmed a comprehensive plan of measures on rendering practical assistance to northwestern rayons of Kashka-Darya Oblast in economic and social development. The Main Central Asian Sovkhoz Construction and ministries and departments of the republic were instructed to concentrate the maximum of efforts on on-schedule fulfillment of the construction work program, water resources construction and construction of virgin land sovkhozes

with well-planned settlements. Some enterprises, construction organizations and farms were invited to organize sponsorship of enterprises, construction projects and sovkhozes in Mubarek City and Mubarekskiy and Bakhoristanskiy Rayons.

The buro adopted the proposal by the Namangan and Dzhizak city and city executive committees and the Ministries of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education and Health of Uzbek SSR to organize an industrial technical school in Namangan City and a medical school in Dustlik Settlement. The Namangan technical school will train specialists for servicing electric power stations and networks and electrical equipment at industrial enterprises and also toolmakers. The Dustlik medical school will train nurses.

The buro also discussed some other questions and adopted corresponding decisions on them.

9817

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REGIONAL

GEORGIAN APK COUNCIL DISCUSSES IMPROVEMENTS IN SEED GRAIN, HYDRO PROJECTS

Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 29 Jun 83 p 2

[GruzINFORM report: "A Meeting of the Agrarian-Industrial Complex Council"]

[Text] A regular meeting of the Georgian republic inter-departmental coordination council for the management of the agrarian-industrial complex has taken place. Ministry and administrations chiefs, agricultural and food industry experts and scientists took part in its work.

The meeting was opened by the chairman of the coordination council, Georgian SSR Council of Ministers deputy chairman O. Vardzelashvili.

A number of questions concerning the development of the republic agrarian-industrial complex were discussed at the meeting. In particular, the status of hydrotechnical installations, pumping stations and drainage systems in the Kolkhidskiy lowlands was considered.

Special attention was given to discussion of the question of the course of fulfillment of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers decree "On Measures To Increase the Production of Southern and Subtropical Crops and Further Accelerate the Development of Agriculture in the Georgian SSR." It was noted that during the past 2 years plans for the production, procurement and sale of agricultural produce have been overfulfilled in the republic. The material-technical base of production has been strengthened and the rates of land reclamation have been increased. Along with the considerable increase in production capacities in the processing industry, the disproportion between the output of agricultural produce and the opportunities for processing it has been reduced, and cooperation has been established almost everywhere between the public farms and the public.

At the same time, in a number of rayons in the republic the available opportunities for increasing the output of agricultural produce are not being fully utilized. Yield is increasing slowly and the level of production and technological discipline is low.

Those participating in the meeting also discussed the state of affairs in seed growing in the republic in light of the demands of the CPSU Central

Committee and USSR Council of Ministers decree "On Measures To Further Improve Selection Work and Seed Growing for Legumes and Grasses for Fodder."

The question of enviromental protection was also discussed at the meeting.

Appropriate decisions were made in the matters discussed.

9642

CSO: 1830/351

REGIONAL

AZERBAIJAN CENTER FOR PUBLIC OPINION, SOCIAL RESEARCH ANALYZES PUBLIC OPINION

Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 20 Aug 83 p 2

[AzerINFORM report: "Channels for Flexible, Current Communications with the Masses"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum, which discussed urgent questions of ideological and mass-political party work, stressed the importance of studies of public opinion. The party, it was noted at the plenum, has at its disposal channels for flexible, current communication, which makes it possible to sensitively test changes in the masses' attitudes and study their interests and requirements deeply for this purpose, making extensive use of workers' statements and letters, questions asked of lecturers and propaganda workers, and sociological studies. The high assessment made at the plenum of the experience in such work gained in Azerbaijan is a source of deep satisfaction for the republic's communists and all the workers.

When speaking at the CPSU Central Committee meeting with party veterans, comrade Yu.V. Andropov called for a study of ways to talk with people more seriously without avoiding delicate issues, and to systematically raise the political culture of the workers so as to make each person a conscious participant in public life. "It is obvious," he noted, "that it is impossible to do this even with the best and finest of words. We rightly talk about the ideological underpinning of economic work. But the social underpinning of ideological work is just as important as the economic, perhaps more so. For any kind of lack of order or mismanagement, violation of the law, money-grubbing or bribery, depreciates the work of thousands of agitators and propaganda workers."

The workers of Azerbaijan announce unanimously that this meeting in the CPSU Central Committee and comrade Yu.V. Andropov's speech constitute a brilliant new proof of the party's high assessment of the remarkable services by the veterans in the struggle for the victory and consolidation

of the gains of Soviet power and the building of socialism, and of its intention henceforth to rely on their rich experience in these great and crucial matters. The tasks put forward by comrade Yu.V. Andropov for the country's socioeconomic and spiritual development, the augmentation of its strength and national well-being, and the education of the rising generation of Soviet people--active participants in the building of communism and worthy successors to the deeds of their fathers--have been adopted as a combat program of action. The documents from the meeting have imparted to the party organizations and the labor collectives a new impetus in their work and the firm resolve to multiply their contribution in accomplishing party plans.

The Azerbaijan party organizations organizes its own activity by relying on the experience of the masses, taking into account their growing requirements. The basis of this activity is the extensive involvement of the workers in discussion of the urgent problems of life in the republic, the comprehensive consideration of public opinion, and taking public opinion into account in the practical work of party leadership in economic and cultural construction, along with public nature of decisions adopted and measures implemented.

In the material published today, we describe an analysis of public opinion on various aspects of life, as conducted by the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Center for Public Opinion and Sociological Studies on the basis of conversations during the combined political days--the Leninist Friday's--held recently in the republic.

One of the fundamental questions of party activity, one of the most important integral components of the building of communism was named by the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum as ideological work. The communists and workers of Azerbaijan have responded warmly and with all their hearts to the plenum decisions and to the propositions and conclusions contained in the speech delivered at the plenum by CPSU Central Committee general secretary comrade Yu.V. Andropov, and they have adopted them for undeviating guidance and execution. The tasks involved in implementing the lines of the June plenum have been comprehensively discussed at a plenum of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee. In the range of questions considered by the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee plenum, special attention was given to the problem of studying public opinion through all the channels of communication with the masses, especially through the medium of the Leninist Friday political days.

A major and emotional discussion that touched on many questions connected with CPSU and Soviet government policy and various aspects of life in the republic took place during the combined political days devoted to the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum, the USSR Law on Labor Collectives, and other very important events in the life of the country and republic. The traditional

Leninist Fridays have become one of the most important forms of activity by the republic party organization to inform the workers on the most urgent problems of sociopolitical and economic life, and on the tasks that the labor collectives are called upon to fulfill in the light of party demands. At the same time, the combined political days enable the party organs to be au courant with the attitudes and requirements of the broad masses, and to study public opinion on a current basis and respond to it promptly. More than 15,000 party, soviet, trade union, Komsomol and economic workers' leaders speak during the Leninist Fridays in front of collectives at industrial and agricultural enterprises, and about 1.5 million people take part in the Fridays.

The questions asked during the political days in the labor collectives are examined and generalized at the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Center for Public Opinion and Sociological Studies.

The participants in the Leninist Fridays unanimously testify that the workers of Azerbaijan are studying with deep interest the documents of the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum, which was a significant event in the life of the party and all the Soviet people. The close attention shown at the plenum to questions of enriching the spiritual world of the Soviet person and to problems of improving ideological and mass political work, is putting forward tasks of enormous importance for the party and all the workers of our country. Those speaking, including comrade Yu.V. Andropov in his speech at the plenum, talked precisely about these matters, stressing the serious harm that flaws in ideological work and insufficient maturity in people's awareness, when this occurs, can do. And, contrariwise, how the rates of advance increase when ideological work becomes more effective, when the masses have a better understanding of party policy and perceive it as their own, as a policy that meets the people's vital interests.

The truly statesmanlike discussions during the political days--discussions that are interest-filled and that take place from positions of high responsibility to the party and the country--demonstrate the personal involvement of the people of labor in the affairs of the party of Lenin, and they testify to their firm resolve to do everything in order to fulfill the socioeconomic plans of the third year of the five-year plan and the five-year plan as a whole. Those speaking talk with a feeling of great pride in the country's successes and their own republic about the achievements, and they reveal the reserves that can and must be placed at the service of the common cause and the state.

And here, first and foremost, the need was stressed for the struggle to strengthen socialist discipline--a real reserve in the economic upsurge. And no matter where the talk revolved on this, its participants warmly approved the steps taken by the party to strengthen labor discipline and order, and they pointed to the need to intensify the struggle against slackness and irresponsibility toward labor pledges. And this means that henceforth it will be necessary to deal with greater decisiveness with slovenly people, slackers and idlers, with those who want to give the state less while taking a little more for themselves.

It was stated among audiences in the political days that the resolution of economic tasks and the struggle to fulfill plans are closely connected with socialist competition--a broad movement of the masses. But at the same time it must be remembered, those speaking noted, that, as was emphasized at the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum, today new requirements are being made on the organization of socialist competition and its forms should not be considered set once and for all. Not only the quantity of output produced is important; its quality should be improved, and there should be better utilization of production capacities, raw materials, energy and work time. The crux of the matter should be savings of all kinds, from the ton of metal to the kilogram of grain. It is precisely on this that all effort should be focused.

When talking about all this, the participants in the political days asked questions about the role to be played by the labor collective in the struggle to strengthen socialist discipline and develop socialist competition and the movement for thrift and economy. It was noted among audiences of workers that the USSR Law on Labor Collectives has been a brilliant embodiment of the Leninist idea on the increasingly broad affirmation of collectivism in the social practice of the new order, and it reflects the unswerving course of the CPSU and the Soviet national government toward further improvements in socialist democracy. One indispensable condition for success in any collective work is the strengthening of discipline--state, planning, technological and labor. Noting this, the representatives of the labor collectives asked questions concerning measures for the ideological-political, labor and moral education of the workers.

One way of organizing labor that has shown itself to be a form of effective socialist self-management is the single-contract brigade form. The brigade contract is being applied increasingly extensively in industrial enterprises and in agriculture in the republic. And it is not happenstance that when this subject was raised during the course of the political days, the participants noted that, as a rule, in the collectives that have switched to the brigade contract, productivity and labor discipline have improved. This method promotes a reinforcement of comradesly mutual aid and the educational effect of highly organized socialist labor. The connection between labor contribution and the wages of the brigade members is also more obvious. At the same time it has also resulted in a justified concern that many serious shortcomings still exist in the organization of the brigade system, and that in some places it is effected only formally, for the sake of "appearances"; and, naturally, this also exerts an adverse effect on both the production and the moral planes.

In this connection, among the labor audiences the question was raised of the principles of distribution by labor. And here, those participating in the discussions were as one in their opinion. They said that the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum had been right to state that each of our citizens has a right only to those material boons that correspond to the quantity and quality of his socially useful labor. And here, strict accounting and strict observance of this principle are important. Interest was also shown in the practical introduction of progressive forms of wages and material incentive in the labor-intensive sectors of the national economy.

The contribution of the workers of Azerbaijan in implementing the USSR Food Program is becoming increasingly great. Expressing their satisfaction at this, participants of Leninist Fridays at enterprises in Leninskiy and Shaumyanovskiy rayons, farms in Saatlinskiy, Kazakhskiy and Kasum-Ismailovskiy rayons, and at the "Azsel'khozvodoprovodstroy" association were interested in how the program is being implemented, and they gave particular attention to the need to strengthen incentive for the development of livestock farming and expansion of the fodder base. At the same time, note was also made of difficulties connected with the allocation of subsidiary plots and with providing private subsidiary plots in Neftechalinskiy, Kusarskiy, Kubinskiy and Dzhul'finskiy rayons with cattle fodder.

Questions involving the activity of the rayon agrarian-industrial associations were at the center of attention among participants in the combined political days that took place in the labor collectives in Dashkesanskiy, Ordubadskiy and other rayons. In many places they have given a good account of themselves. In some places, however, the agrarian-industrial associations have still not become the real organizers of agricultural production and have failed to insure a changeover to the new style of work. Field and farm workers said that more attention should be given to raising the level of agricultural mechanization for harvesting agricultural crops and in livestock farming, and to reducing the proportion of manual labor.

Problems concerning prospects for growth in real incomes for agricultural specialists and wage distribution by labor were also touched upon. Recently, more young rural people have been staying on to work at farms in their own area after graduating from school. In this connection, at the political days at sovkhoses and kolkhoses in Tauzskiy, Saatlinskiy and Kubatlinskiy rayons and the Nakhichevan ASSR, the question of further recruiting young people for work in the countryside was raised. And for this, improvements must be achieved in consumer cultural and personal services, especially for young workers.

It was noted during the course of the political days that within Azerbaijan, considerable positive experience has been gained in the field of Russian language studies, including in rural localities. At the same time, it was said that there are still many instances of poor knowledge of Russian limiting people's opportunities for intercourse and their spiritual growth. This is also seen when young people from rural areas are serving their time in the ranks of the Soviet army. This is why it is very important, the participants of the Leninist Fridays stressed, to actively implement the recent CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers decree on creating conditions that make it easier for the populations of the national republics to study the Russian language--the language of friendship and brotherhood, of inter-nation dealings between Soviet people.

In light of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum, a broad range of questions was raised connected with the further improvement of ideological and mass political work and improving its forms and methods. In particular, it was said that this work is still often of a formal and dogmatic nature, and forms of mass information that have little effect are still applied,

using the old methods. Workers in Lenkoranskiy rayon suggested that skilled international lecturers be sent more often into the local organizations. In Neftechalinskiy rayon note was made of the inadequate effectiveness and quality of lectures presented by some members of the republic "Znaniye" society. There should be more extensive use of technical means in lecture propaganda. During the course of the political days taking place in Kubatlinskiy rayon, attention was drawn to the need to strengthen the ideological tempering of economic leaders and the secretaries of primary party and Komsomol organizations.

Interesting experience in creating ideological centers on the base of field camps at a number of kolkhozes and sovkhozes has been gained in Bardinskiy and Agdamskiye rayons. During the harvesting time here, mass political work is developed broadly to explain CPSU and Soviet government domestic and foreign policies, and during the meal breaks and after the day's work is over, agitation teams, lecturers and political reporters speak. In these centers, information for workers on the course of socialist competition has also been well organized. Amateur dramatic groups are the frequent guests of the farmers, and workers from the public health organs are on duty in the field camps. Experience in the work of these ideological centers has been approved at a meeting of the republic aktiv in the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee at which tasks in providing ideological backup for rural workers' struggle to obtain high harvests and to implement the USSR Food Program were discussed. At the same time, it was noted among kolkhoz and sovkhoz audiences in Fizulinskiy, Zardobskiye, Masallinskiy, Khachmasskiy, Zakatal'skiy and a number of other rayons that these kinds of centers, which would promote reliable ideological backup for rural workers' participation in the 1983 harvest work, have not not been set up everywhere.

It was noted at the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum that the 26th CPSU Congress proclaimed the need to insure close links between economic and social policy since the ultimate goal of our efforts in the economic sphere is to improve the people's living conditions. These problems, which touch on various aspects of our everyday life, evoke a proper interest, and sometimes also concern among those participating in the political days. During the course of the Leninist Fridays, questions connected with the social and cultural development of cities and the countryside and the labor collectives are constantly raised. Many justified criticisms have been leveled at the ministries and administrations and local soviets whose activities directly associated with solving social problems and improving the population's everyday conditions still fail to satisfy citizens.

As before, serious censure is aimed at the work of urban passenger transportation in many labor collectives. Participants raised questions concerning the need for normalization of its activities and improvements in the technical and sanitary condition of rolling stock used on the lines. And in the Shekinskiy silk production association, where 6,000 people work, they spoke about the need to allocate buses to provide reliable transit between the enterprise and the city.

Attention was directed to the importance of improving the work of trade and public catering enterprises. Labor collectives in Shaumyanovskiy (rural)

rayon said that shortages of individual commodities, which are available in adequate quantities at the bases and warehouses, are often created because of unskillful and inflexible organization of trade, and sometimes deliberately. This was also pointed out by workers at enterprises in Sheki, where there are frequent shortages of various hulled grains and macaroni items in the stores while these products are being sold at speculative prices. Workers in the Caspian Sea Steamship Line, anxious about the unsatisfactory status of control over market pricing, were interested in measures being implemented to regulate prices for fruit and vegetables.

At the political days, criticisms were aimed at the Ministry of Communications because of the delays in organizing telephone services in the cities and countryside and the poor quality of telephone services.

At the "Azneft" and other labor collectives, a number of questions were raised in connection with shortcomings in consumer municipal services, namely the unordered supplies of potable and hot water and the breakdowns in heat supplies. Attention was directed to the slow rates and poor quality of repairs to housing and the preparation of the municipal services for the winter; and the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Services and the Baku city ispolkom were subjected to criticism.

Serious criticisms were leveled at the ministries of trade, consumer services, and public health, Azerittifak [meaning unknown--ed] and other ministries and administrations. The populations of a number of rural rayons are dissatisfied with the status of cultural services. Thus, in Martuninskiy rayon, the construction of schools and kindergartens is taking place only slowly.

The workers of Azerbaijan (and this is confirmed also by the statements made by citizens at the combined political days), have adopted with great satisfaction the demand proclaimed at the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum to make an end to the phenomenon of instances where state or public property or an official position are used for personal enrichment. It is very correct, workers at the Baku Oil Refinery imeni XXII s'yezda KPSS said, when it was stated at the plenum that such instances are nothing other than an undermining of the very essence of our system, and here the law should be uncompromising and its exercise ineluctable. At the plant imeni Zakfederatsii it was proposed that more effective steps be taken and that liability should be borne by the authors of anonymous libellous letters who try to besmirch our reality and blacken honest people for mercenary motives.

In his speech to the central committee June plenum, comrade Yu.V. Andropov noted that the new edition of the CPSU Program, which is being prepared in accordance with a 26th CPSU Congress decision, should play an exceptionally important role for ideological work and for all party work in general. Under present conditions, the party program should be primarily a program for the planned and comprehensive improvement of developed socialism, and this means, for the further advance to communism. At the Leninist Fridays, a broad range of questions were raised connected with the development of this most important party document, and its features.

Problems of international life and CPSU and Soviet government foreign policy activity, particularly the USSR's new peace initiatives, arouse great interest among workers. Speaking with anxiety about the militarist course of the United States and the aggressive NATO circles, associated with the deployment of new strategic thermonuclear weapons in the countries of West Europe, those participating in the political days at the same time stressed that if required the Soviet state will reliably defend the achievements of socialism and the interests of the countries of the socialist community.

Participants in the political days unanimously stated their firm resolve to devote all their efforts to implementing the CPSU plans and through their labor to strengthen the economic and defensive might of our state.

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While stressing the indissolubility of party ideological activity and a smoothly working feedback mechanism with the masses, the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum put forward the task of moving from assessment of the status of ideological processes to predicting them, from uncoordinated studies of public opinion to systematic studies. More attention must be given to developing substantive recommendations on concrete problems of social and educational practice, and to persistently shaping public opinion in the spirit of an uncompromising attitude toward shortcomings and negative phenomena.

The combined political days, at which, as practice shows, the very broadest range of questions are raised on the most important spheres of the republic's and country's socioeconomic life that are worrying the workers, are also called upon to promote the resolution of these major and important tasks. Demonstrating high civic awareness and deep interest in public affairs, they deal with various national economic and social problems, reveal shortcomings, and indicate ways to eliminate them. Noting this sociopolitical activity on the part of the workers, the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Center for Public Opinion and Sociological Studies expresses the conviction that henceforth, too, they will actively express their ideas on the matters that affect them today and on other urgent questions of our present life.

In the statements made by political day participants a number of criticisms were directed at ministries both named and unnamed in this material. Their leaders should immediately take steps to eliminate shortcomings and mobilize communists and all workers in local apparatuses and organs in order to set matters to rights and fully satisfy the legitimate demands of the workers.

Henceforth, too, the center will give its attention to how work is being done to eliminate shortcomings, regularly bring information about it to the broad masses via the press and television and radio, and listen to information on individual matters from the appropriate leaders of ministries, administrations and organizations.

As the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee plenum that took place in July this year demanded, it is essential to persistently develop, extend and strengthen the links between the party organizations and the masses, study their interests and requirements, take these into account to the maximum in their practical activities, not rest on their laurels, and constantly perfect accumulated experience in ideological and mass political work.

REGIONAL

'EXTREMIST VIEWS' OF 'ILLEGAL' JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES CRITICIZED

Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 5 Aug 83 p 2

[Article by candidate of philosophical sciences D. Tabakaru: "False Witness"]

[Text] Each religious denomination is characterized by a certain aggregate of views and ritualistic acts that make up the main pivot of its dogma and cult and exerts the greatest effect on the consciousness and behavior of the believers. In the religious organization known as "Jehovah's Witnesses" this pivotal kernel is the "teaching" on Armageddon, the all-consuming fire which will be survived only by the adherents of this faith who will be assured of a life of happiness in a kingdom to last a thousand years on earth, followed by an eternal life in the kingdom of God. With the aid of this concept, the preachers of Jehovahism suppress the intelligence and will of believers, making them their obedient instruments in carrying out their own ignoble purposes. But more of this later. Meanwhile, let us clarify the sources of the "Jehovah's Witnesses'" beliefs. They are traced to a period not too far removed historically.

In the early 1870's the development of capitalism was continuing in the United States at rapid rates, bringing new calamities to the lower strata of society: farmers were ruined, the army of the unemployed swelled in the cities and villages, the cost of living rose, the workers' living standards declined. Under these conditions, people who had lost their faith in their own strength turned increasingly to heaven, expecting to be saved from their hard lot. Growing religious ferment created fertile soil for the activation of existing and new sects that affirmed that the end of the world and the second coming of Christ were at hand.

One such sect was the "Bible Students' Association." It was founded in 1872 by the owner of a ready-made clothing store in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, one Charles Russell. In 1879 he started to publish the journal ZION'S WATCH TOWER AND HERALD OF CHRIST'S PRESENCE, later renamed THE WATCH TOWER (and since 1966, WATCHTOWER).

In his preaching, this latter-day prophet asserted that the "Day of the Lord" or the "day of wrath against the people" would start early in the 20th century and that all people, living and dead (the latter will be resurrected) would stand in judgement before the Lord and that there would be "a battle of the

great day" in which all the peoples of the earth would be destroyed. As we know, however, the proclaimed end of the world did not occur.

In 1916 the unsuccessful prophet died. His successor J. Rutherford announced that the end of the world could be expected in 1925. He also introduced the concept of Armageddon as a war by God which would involve the entire world and in which the god Jehovah "will destroy this evil world" at the "final ending." This "prediction," too, burst like a soap bubble.

After Rutherford's death in 1942 a certain N. Knorr became the president of this corporation. In no way embarrassed by the sorry experience of his foolhardy predecessors, he started to name specific dates for Armageddon-- 1958, 1960, 1961 and then 1975.

Knorr and his closest "apostles" directly asserted that in accordance with "God's intention" and "Bible proofs," in "the universal war of Armageddon" "godless communism and all its supporters will be destroyed," along with "the country that is now called the Soviet Union."

And so this is the way the winds blows with this false witness by the ideologues of Jehovahism from their lair in Brooklyn. Similar "revelations" are issued from the main center of shameless anitcommunism and anti-Sovietism in Brooklyn, even though they try to mask their true face behind false statements about the political neutrality of this religious organization and with profuse verbiage about their condemnation of "false religions" (this is what the Jehovah's ideologues call other Christian denominations) for their participation in the political struggle. But in fact all the activity of the Brooklyn dogmatists is of a marked political nature and serves big capital in enslaving the working masses. The socialist countries, primarily the Soviet Union, which have defended human progress and proclaimed a struggle to free all workers from exploitation, poverty and lack of rights and to prevent nuclear war and establish peace in the world, are especially not to their liking.

We have met believers from the "Jehovah's Witnesses" many times. They react in various ways to the prophecy of their "spiritual pastors." Some, even on the eve of the next "date" for the end of the world, have a doubtful attitude toward its onset. Others call these "revelations" false rumors. And there are also many who are more concerned with the greater problems of everyday life than with thinking about God's war and the Millenium. These believers are less seized with the fear of the evil Armageddon that is strongly instilled in the flock by the Brooklyn center, and they do not recognize its leading role and do not use its literature. Some speak about the need to legalize their communes through registration.

However, many "Jehovah's Witnesses" remain under the strong influence of the Brooklyn propaganda. Fabricated at one time by the "prophets of divine truth" and adapted to local conditions by the preachers, the concept of Jehovahism directs its poisoned dart against communism and atheism and pursues the aim of engendering in believers special feelings of hostility toward them. Under the effect of the deep fear instilled by propaganda of the concept of Armageddon, rank-and-file believers try to isolate and protect themselves from everything

that surrounds them, primarily atheistic propaganda. For this purpose, some of them refuse to take part in political measures; in particular in the elections to the organs of state power; while individual young people refuse to do their service in the Soviet army, which, of course, plays into the hands of those across the ocean whipping up international tension.

Cases where children are forbidden by their parents to visit libraries and movie theaters, watch television, participate in amateur dramatics or join the pioneer and Komsomol organizations, have still not been eradicated. And it is natural that the fear that constantly besets the believing parents is also transmitted to the children, doing harm to their psyches.

As is known, all citizens of our country, regardless of their attitude toward religion, enjoy the same rights and freedoms guaranteed by the USSR Constitution. And this means that they are equally obliged to observe existing laws. However, some Jehovah's witnesses under the influence of the Brooklyn propaganda stand in definite opposition to the socialist order and refute its reality. Things have progressed to the point of extremist actions and violation of the Soviet law on cults. The "Jehovah's Witnesses" hold illegal gatherings, organize collective religious influence on children and so forth. These believers belong to the so-called "opposition" formed within the organization of "Jehovah's Witnesses" operating also on the territory of the republic. They have recently been trying to activate their missionary activity. But the extremist trends are not leading to unity but on the contrary are deepening dissociation and splintering.

The trends and phenomena noted in the activities of the "Jehovah's Witnesses" organization require consideration of their features and a specific approach to each category of believers, and an increase in work to help loyal believers strengthen their ties with the production collectives and extend their political and scientific outlook, and at the same time the application of more decisive measures to cut short the activities of extremists.

It should be noted that one typical feature of the "Jehovah's Witnesses" is the dual nature of their thinking, feelings and attitudes. On the one hand they are beset with deep fears about the dreadful Armageddon, and on the other, with an instilled sense of being better than all other people, who are allegedly in store for inevitable destruction in the "fiery Gehenna." This duality engenders in them a constant inner struggle that leaves a deep impression on their psychology while at the same time it is the source of the contradictory trends that are observed in the activities of this organization.

Atheistic work with "Jehovah's Witnesses" is designed to teach them this. In particular, special restraint should be shown and attempts should be made to make the believers understand that our society cares for their fate and wishes them only well and is trying to help them to sort out everything that is happening, including the content of the dogma that they preach.

Here, the main attention should be given to unmasking the reactionary political direction of the "Jehovah's Witnesses" organization and to revealing the unsoundness and harm of the Jehovahist ideology in general and the concept

of Armageddon in particular. For the main purpose of the Brooklyn ideologists and the local preachers is not to help rank-and-file believers to study the "word of God" but to instill in them a fear of Armageddon, divert them from active participation in the building of communism, mold their consciousness and their will and transform them into obedient creatures ready to sacrifice everything for the sake of this reactionary organization.

Systematic, purposeful and profoundly scientific work that comprehensively reveals the actual practice and real aims of the communist creativity of the Soviet people, along with precise observance of all the principles of atheistic education, will necessarily lead to positive shifts in the consciousness and behavior of rank-and-file "Jehovah's Witnesses" and help them to break with religion.

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